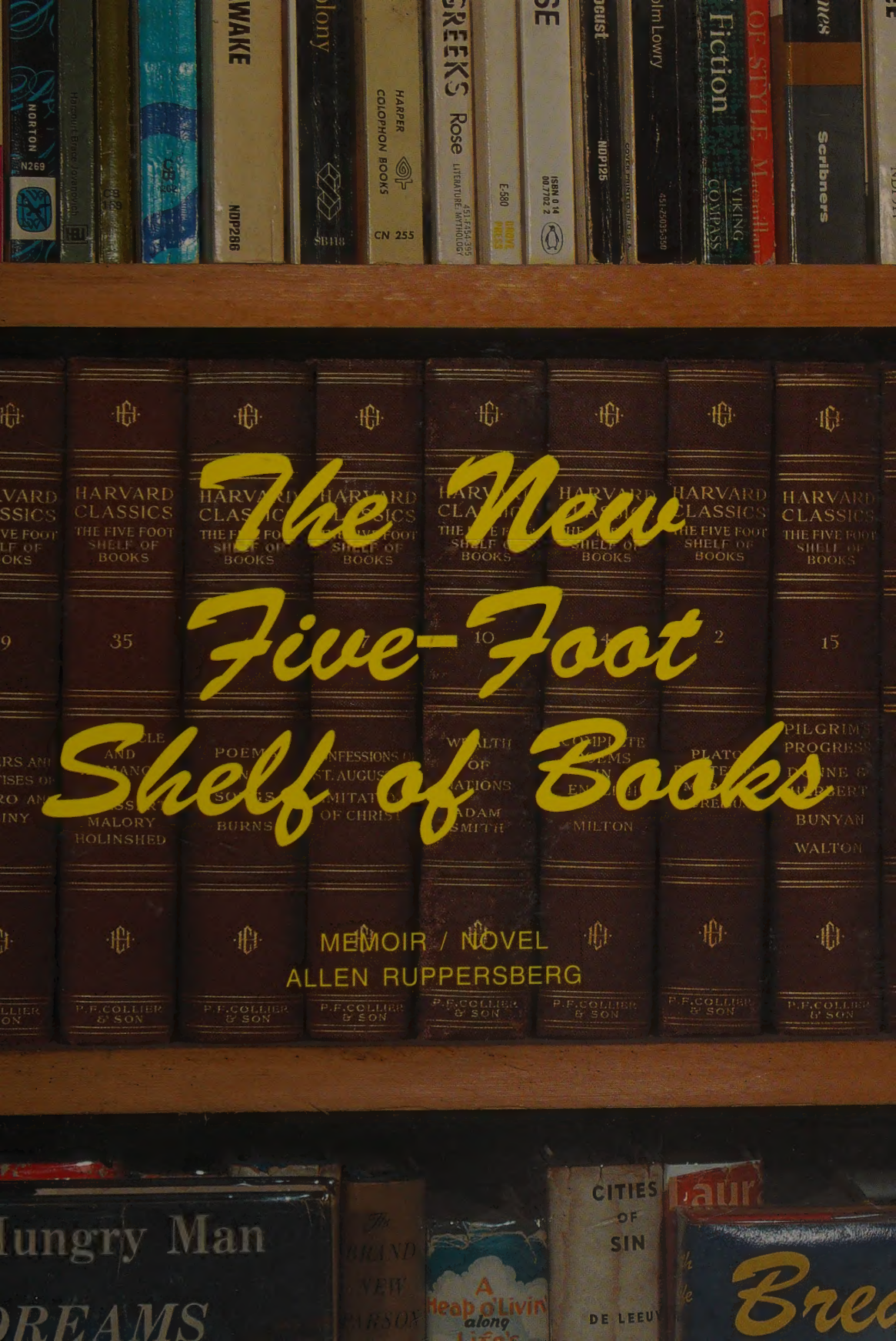
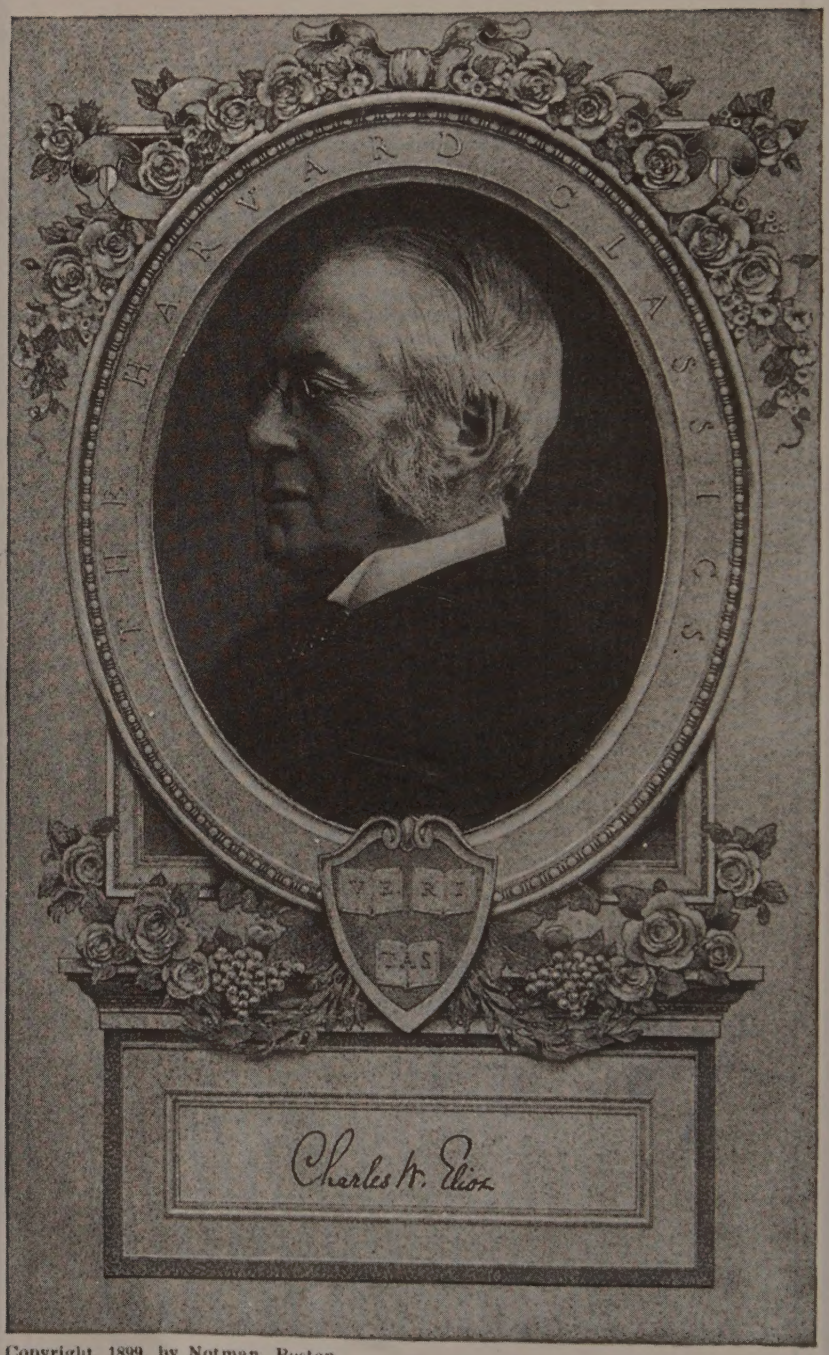

The New
Five-Foot
Shelf of Books
MEMOIR / NOVEL
ALLEN RUPPERSBERG

P9-DTM-234

# THE FIVE-FOOT SHELF OF BOOKS

FIFTY VOLUMES · FOUR HUNDRED AND EIGHTEEN TITLES · THREE HUNDRED AUTHORS · READING COURSES AND SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND REFERENCES

P F COLLIER & SON
PUBLISHERS • NEW YORK

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# The Five-Foot Shelf of Books

YOU remember, perhaps, President Garfield's reply to a request for a definition of a college.

"My idea of a college," he said, "would be Mark Hopkins on one end of a log and a student on the other."

If one were asked, in similar fashion, to define a university, he could hardly do better than to picture two easy-chairs drawn up before a library fire, with Dr. Eliot in one, and the learner in the other. And the learner might be anyone—a youth, eager to remedy the deficiencies of his earlier education, a business man coveting a broader appreciation of literature and history, or a professional man seeking to broaden his own vision by personal contact with the greatest teacher of the age.

There are few men, no matter what the advantages of their education, who would not eagerly accept an invitation to visit Dr. Eliot's library and cultivate his friendship among his books, to read, as he directed, the books that would furnish a better understanding of literature, science, history and art. For the aspiring young man, anxious to better himself, it would be the educational opportunity of a lifetime; for the

man of wider reading, it would be the keenest sort of intellectual delight.

You, yourself—supposing the invitation were to come to you—suppose that Dr. Eliot were to say, "Come around to my home to-night; I want to show you some books that I believe you will enjoy; I have arranged them so that you can get the most out of them, even if you can spend only fifteen minutes a day with them."

## Fifteen Minutes a Day with Dr. Eliot

Now, it happens that Dr. Eliot has, in effect, done that very thing. Out of all the thousands of books in his library, including every important book that has ever been written in English or translated into it, he has selected fifty volumes. He has read and reread these books, having in mind the "Twentieth Century American"; on the margins are his pencilings; throughout each volume run his comments. In the fiftieth volume are courses of reading designed specifically for the busy, but ambitious American. To the growing young man he says: "Take these books: they contain the essentials of a liberal education." To the business and professional man, eager to make his spare moments count, but discouraged by the fragmentary character of his reading, he says: "If you can give only fifteen minutes a day to reading, read these books."

Here are the greatest histories that have

ever been written, the great biographies, the great dramas, the great books of science and philosophy and religion, the master poems. They are the very volumes which a man would be given to read, were he to sit hour after hour in the classrooms of Harvard University itself. Think of the pleasure, the satisfying delight of reading them with Dr. Eliot, in your own home, even in periods of fifteen minutes a day.

## Not the Best Fifty Books

Make no mistake. These are not the "best fifty books" in the world. Other men have attempted to give their judgment on that subject on which no one man's judgment is worth very much, and the result has not been particularly impressive. Dr. Eliot was too wise to attempt it. Nor are these extracts, or abridgments. The works selected are complete—the great master thinkers and writers of the world represented by their greatest masterpieces. That is why those who say that these fifty volumes are a "library in themselves" are right. Each work is complete and perfect, just as the master wrote it; and each one is made intelligible to the Twentieth Century man by Dr. Eliot himself.

## What Are The Harvard Classics?

Just what are The Harvard Classics, then? Suppose we let Dr. Eliot answer. "My aim was not to select the best fifty or the best one hundred books in the world," he says, "but

to give a picture of the progress of the human race in historical times, so far as that progress can be depicted in books."

That, then, was his purpose—to take out of each age the histories, or essays, or poems, or plays, or biographies that record like photographs the spirit and life of that age—Homer and Plato, for instance, out of Greece, and Virgil, Cicero, Pliny, Tacitus and Marcus Aurelius out of Rome—and so on. To unite the works of these great men in such a way that they tell the story of human progress from the beginning—and then to explain their writings so as to make that story intelligible—that is what he has done. It gives Dr. Eliot the right, does it not, to say that these books contain "such a knowledge of ancient and modern literature as seems essential to the Twentieth Century idea of a cultivated man."

Can you conceive of any more fascinating way of achieving that knowledge of modern and ancient literature than in fifteen minute readings with Dr. Eliot himself?

## They Are a University Reading Course

Other men might have chosen these fifty volumes and they would have been nothing more or less than fifty additional books in anybody's library. It is Dr. Eliot's treatment of these books that makes them The Harvard Classics. No matter along what line your interest lies, he has mapped out a reading course for you that is at once de-

lightful and full of self-development. Is your interest in travel? Dr. Eliot has chosen the best stories of voyages and travels of the world's great adventurers, from the writings of Herodotus and Columbus to Dana's "Two Years Before the Mast." Are you interested in history? He will show you the progress of civilization from the dawn of history to the present day. Does the drama appeal to you? The Harvard Classics contain the great plays of all ages. If you are fond of philosophy, here are the world's great philosophers, with Dr. Eliot to make their meaning clear. If theology attracts you, the great religious works of the world are here—and here, too, are his explanations.

Whatever your interest, however limited your time, these courses are laid out precisely to fit your needs. The reading that you have longed to do, and have put off because of the lack of opportunity, you may do now and see results from it, even though, as Dr. Eliot says, you can devote to this only fifteen minutes a day.

## They Are an Encyclopedia

An encyclopedia? you ask. How can they be an encyclopedia? Turn over to the back of volume fifty. What do you find there? You find that the editor has made every single great thought in the fifty volumes immediately available for your use, by means of a magnificent index: 76,000 fact entries and separate cross-references cover practically every subject that you

would want information about, with the references to all that the greatest thinkers have written about it.

You are reading and you come to the name Lycurgus. You would like to know more about Lycurgus. Turn to your Harvard Classics: here is an account of who he was, what he did, and the things that great men in all ages have said about him.

You are interested in the relations of Labor and Capital. Turn again to your Classics. Immediately you find not only what great men have written, but you are able to trace the progress of the world's thought on that subject from age to age down to the present time.

You want a poetical quotation? Here are thousands of poems, indexed so that you have the best poetry of the ages instantly at your command.

## They Are a Library

But it is not merely because of their utilitarian value that we are proud to be the publishers of The Harvard Classics. They are, after all, more than a series of great university courses; they are more than an encyclopedia. That young man of limited means was right when he wrote to us: "I have not added them to my library; they *are* my library." Bishop Vincent was right when he described The Harvard Classics as a "vast world of literature." President David Starr Jordan of Leland Stanford University was right when he called them "The noblest thoughts which have been

cast into literary form." Dr. Eliot himself has spoken of them as "a useful extension of my educational work." And so they are. Out of his fifty years of ripened educational experience he has brought forth this service —he has brought to the busy, ambitious man the literature of the world, so edited and arranged that it can be mastered in even so short a period as fifteen minutes a day.

It is not easy to overestimate the value of that service. The faculty and fellows of Harvard University recognized its value when they officially sanctioned the use of the title "Harvard Classics." The press of the country received it as the educational achievement of the decade. And more than fifty thousand Americans have purchased The Harvard Classics—and are well satisfied.

## Too Busy to Read?

You have no time to read? It is precisely for you that Dr. Eliot has done his work. These volumes, he says, will give that knowledge of modern and ancient literature which a cultivated man needs, even if he can devote to them only fifteen minutes a day.

Physicians have written us that they carry a volume of The Harvard Classics with them on their way between professional calls. Lawyers write of the intellectual delight and relief that comes from picking up a volume of the Classics and spending a few minutes with Dr. Eliot in the intervals of a busy day. Business men, without number, have made it a practice to

keep a volume on their desk, in order that the smallest moments may bring a bit of mental refreshment. The busier you are and the less leisure you have for reading, the more you need The Harvard Classics.

## You Have Too Many Books?

These are not merely books, they are Dr. Eliot's personality, the fruits of his educational life, made available for you. You would not scorn the opportunity to spend some minutes each day with him? Then accept this opportunity to approach that experience in these books which he has arranged and made delightful for you.

Dean Evans of the Chattanooga Law School, who has thousands of books, says, "For the modern man not to own and know these books is worse than a mistake: it is a blunder."

## You Have Little Education?

Perhaps your earlier opportunities were limited; perhaps you have coveted all your life the training and education that in other men have meant a larger success and a broader happiness. For you there is a real inspiration in these words of Dr. Eliot:

"I believe that the faithful and considerate reading of these books . . . will give any man the essentials of a liberal education, even if he can devote to them but fifteen minutes a day."

Think of it—the essentials of a liberal education, achieved under the personal

guidance of Dr. Eliot. What other books than these, or who else could offer so much?

## Whoever You Are, You Need These Books

Whatever your position in life, or your situation, you are at least a "Twentieth Century American." It is for you that Dr. Eliot has thus made The Harvard Classics the crowning achievement of his educational life. Read in the following pages his own statement of his reasons for undertaking this work, read how universities and public institutions united with editor and publisher to make The Harvard Classics unique in educational value, and you will understand why we say that, whoever you are, you need these books.

# Dr. Eliot Tells Why He Undertook the Work

I HAVE undertaken to select from the best literature of the world a Five-Foot Shelf of Books, to be published by P. F. Collier & Son, under the title of "The Harvard Classics." The selection is intended exclusively for English-speaking people.

It is my belief that the faithful and considerate reading of these books, with such rereadings and memorizings as individual taste may prescribe, will give any man the essentials of a liberal education, even if he can devote to them but fifteen minutes a day.

## Harvard University Sanctions Title

It was further proposed that the set be called The Harvard Library or The Harvard Classics. In view of this proposed name for the set, and of the fact that I had been President of Harvard University for nearly forty years, I asked the President and Fellows of Harvard College if they saw any objection, from the point of view of the University, to my accepting the proposal of P. F. Collier & Son. The Board replied unanimously that they saw no objection, and that, in their judgment, the undertaking, if well carried out, would prove

a useful one from the educational point of view.

## Dr. Eliot's Aim

My aim was not to select the best fifty, or best hundred, books in the world, but to give, in twenty-one thousand pages or thereabouts, a picture of the progress of the human race within historical times, so far as that progress can be depicted in books.

## Liberal Education Defined

Liberal education accomplishes two objects. It produces a liberal frame of mind and it makes the studious and reflective recipient acquainted with the stream of the world's thought and feeling, and with the infinitely varied products of the human imagination. It was my hope and belief that fifty volumes might accomplish this result for any intelligent, ambitious, and persistent reader, whether his early opportunities for education had been large or small. Such was the educational purpose with which I undertook to edit The Harvard Classics, and I believe that a similar educational purpose actuated the publishers.

## Useful Extension of His Educational Work

I regard the undertaking as a useful extension of my educational work, and I cherish the hope that, when the work is finished, the educated public will so regard it.

If our work proves to have been well done, the use of the title "The Harvard Classics" will be justified.

## Twentieth-Century Idea of a Cultivated Man

Within the limits of fifty volumes, containing about 22,000 pages, I was to provide the means of obtaining such a knowledge of ancient and modern literature as seems essential to the twentieth-century idea of a cultivated man. The best acquisition of a cultivated man is a liberal frame of mind or way of thinking; but there must be added to that possession acquaintance with the prodigious store of recorded discoveries, experiences, and reflections which humanity in its intermittent and irregular progress from barbarism to civilization has acquired and laid up.

## A Cultivated Man Enlarges His Outlook and Sympathies

The sentiments and opinions these authors express are frequently not acceptable to present-day readers, who have to be often saying to themselves: "This is not true, or not correct, or not in accordance with our beliefs." It is, however, precisely this encounter with the mental states of other generations which enlarges the outlook and sympathies of the cultivated man, and persuades him of the upward tendency of the human race.

## Poetry from Homer to Tennyson

The poetry contained in The Harvard Classics from Homer to Tennyson will by itself give any appreciative reader a vivid conception of the permanent, elemental sentiments and passions of mankind, and of the gradually developed ethical means of purifying those sentiments and controlling those passions.

## "High Thoughts and Beautiful Imagery"

In order to make the best use of The Harvard Classics it will be desirable for the young reader to reread those volumes or passages which he finds most interesting, and to commit to memory many of the pieces of poetry which stir or uplift him. It is a source of exquisite and enduring delight to have one's mind stored with many melodious expressions of high thoughts and beautiful imagery.

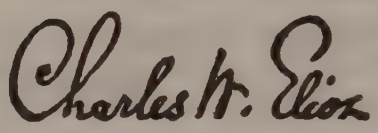
## Chief End in View

The main function of the collection should be to develop and foster in many thousands of people a taste for serious reading of the highest quality, outside of The Harvard Classics as well as within them.

## Cooperation of Harvard University

It would have been impossible to perform the task satisfactorily if the treasures of the general library and of the depart-

ment libraries of Harvard University had not been at our disposal. The range of the topics in the series was so wide, and the number of languages in which the desired books were originally written so great, that the advice of specialists, each in some portion of the field, had frequently to be sought. We obtained much valuable advice of this sort from scholarly friends and neighbors.



# The World's Civilization on a Bookshelf

THE fifty volumes of The Harvard Classics have been called "the world's civilization on a bookshelf." This is not our phrase or Dr. Eliot's. It was first used by an enthusiastic admirer of The Harvard Classics, writing to tell us how valuable he had found the set. In the sense in which the writer used the words, they are a true description of The Harvard Classics. Every powerful idea that has ever moved the human mind and influenced civilization is to be found in these volumes. They record the progress of the human race within historical times, not in the dry-as-dust words of historians delving into the dead past, but in the actual words of the men who lived through and helped to make each age. It matters not what particular line of human thought and achievement interests you most. You will find in these fifty volumes the thoughts of the great men of every age on that particular subject.

## How the Norsemen First Discovered America

Are you interested in American History? You know, of course, that Christopher Columbus and his men were not the first Euro-

peans to land on the shores of America. You have heard more or less vaguely about the hardy Norsemen who ventured across the stormy north Atlantic in craft no bigger than a modern lifeboat centuries before Columbus's voyages. But have you *read the actual story* of these voyages in the quaint words of the ancient "Saga of Eric the Red." Do you know how the adventurous Biarni, blown out of his course while sailing from Iceland to Greenland, caught the first glimpse of the mainland of America but did not land, and how Lief, the son of Eric stirred by Biarni's tales, first sailed forth and set foot on the New World's shores? As fascinating as any fiction are these stories of the early Norse voyages and settlements, and their fights with the "Skrellings," as they called the Indians. There is a real human interest story in the tale of Snorri, the first white child born in America, and how the shadow of an Indian squaw falling across his cradle gave the first warning of an attempted massacre.

Here is a vivid little word picture of how Thorfinn Karlsefni and his men spent a winter in the New World, and how the Indians, for the first time, perhaps, got the short end of their dealings with the white men:

"In the summer succeeding the first winter Skrellings were discovered. A great troop of men came forth from out the woods. The cattle were hard by, and the bull began to bellow and roar with a great noise, whereat the Skrellings were frightened, and ran away with their packs, where-

in were gray furs, sables, and all kinds of peltries. They fled toward Karlsefni's dwelling, and sought to effect an entrance into the house; but Karlsefni caused the doors to be defended against them. Neither people could understand the other's language.

"The Skrellings put down their bundles then, and loosed them, and offered their wares for barter, and were especially anxious to exchange these for weapons; but Karlsefni forbade his men to sell their weapons, and, taking counsel with himself, he bade the women carry out milk to the Skrellings, which they no sooner saw than they wanted to buy it, and nothing else. Now the outcome of the Skrellings' trading was that they carried their wares away in their stomachs, while they left their packs and peltries behind with Karlsefni and his companions."

The ancient chronicler was evidently not altogether without a sense of humor.

## Around the World with Dr. Eliot

It must not be imagined, however, that The Harvard Classics have specialized in the travels, voyages, and history of America to the neglect of other nations and earlier ages. Indeed, you may travel around the world with Dr. Eliot—and can you imagine an experience more delightful than to visit with him the Old World lands of romance and story, made living by his intimate personal comment? This, in effect, is

what has been arranged for you in The Harvard Classics. Start in, if you will, in Egypt with Herodotus, the picturesque Greek historian and world traveler who wrote in a popular vein that would have made him a best seller to-day. Your visit with him will be not to an Egypt of crumbling monuments and departed glories, but to Egypt in the Golden Age of the Pharaohs, in the midst of a civilization as wonderful in many ways as our own.

Columbus will tell you, in his own words, of his first sight of the New World which he thought to be the East Indies, never guessing that a continent and thousands of leagues stood between him and his goal. You may voyage with Amerigo Vespucci, who gave his name to the New World, or sail around the globe with Sir Francis Drake. R. H. Dana, Jr., will give you a vivid picture of the every-day sailor's life in "Two Years Before the Mast," which W. Clarke Russell, the well-known writer of sea stories called the best sea tale ever written in English.

You may visit the Bay of Naples and see Vesuvius in the most terrible of its eruptions, when the devastating volcano destroyed Herculaneum and Pompeii at the cost of hundreds of thousands of lives. You will see this memorable disaster, not in the description of some historian written centuries after, but in the words of an actual eyewitness, who himself narrowly escaped death. Pliny the Younger will make you fairly see the rain of ashes and the murk of volcanic dust through which he wan-

dered with his mother all one perilous night.

## Lives of the Makers of History Told by Themselves

It matters little what your particular interest may be. Dr. Eliot in his selection has covered every field. Does history and biography especially appeal to you? History, biography, government and politics are exhaustively covered in complete works by such great authors as Izaak Walton, Samuel Johnson, Machiavelli, Sir Thomas More, John Milton, Rousseau, John Stuart Mill, Benjamin Franklin, Edmund Burke, Benvenuto Cellini, Thomas Carlyle, Daniel Defoe, Voltaire, Froissart, Tacitus, Herodotus, Francis Bacon, Adam Smith and E. A. Freeman.

Philosophy is represented by all the great names from Socrates, Plato and Epictetus to Emerson and John Locke. With Dr. Eliot's notes and comments, The Harvard Classics contain the equivalent of a university course in philosophy.

Do you want to know more about the comparative history of religions? You will find here in The Harvard Classics a complete account of all the great religious movements of history, recorded in the words of the men who helped to make these movements—such religious leaders as St. Augustine, Thomas à Kempis, John Bunyan, Martin Luther, John Knox and John Calvin. There are besides a series of intensely interesting documents from

the sacred books of Judaism, Christianity, Mohammedanism, Buddhism, Brahmanism, and Confucianism.

It is impossible in the limited space of this booklet to even give a résumé of the vast field of knowledge covered by these books. Science is represented by all the great names from Hippocrates and Sir Isaac Newton to Sir Joseph Lister and Lord Kelvin.

Forty-five of the world's greatest essayists are represented by their complete works in The Harvard Classics. Dr. Eliot has covered this side of literature in a most comprehensive manner from Cicero, Montaigne, and Milton to Macaulay, De Quincey, and Matthew Arnold, and our own Lowell, Thoreau, and Poe.

## The Pleasure of Good Reading

Yet neither do the works of philosophy nor science nor history, nor the biographies and essays exhaust the pleasurable possibilities of The Harvard Classics. They have a book for every mood. Are you sometimes weary with the day's work—too tired to follow the argument of a more serious work? What more refreshing experience than to pick up Malory's "Morte d'Arthur," or the fables and household tales of Æsop and the Grimm Brothers, or to spend a half hour in the genial companionship of Don Quixote?

Or sit, if you will, at your own library fire and see the great plays of the ages with Dr. Eliot. The best which the theater has produced is in The Harvard Classics from Æschylus down to Browning. What will you have? Shakespeare? Here is the very best of his work. Or does Goethe better fit your mood? His "Faust" is here in full. The dramatists that have made famous the stage of France and of Spain are here also, as well as those first great writers whose plays stirred the multitudes in the great open amphitheaters of Greece.

Not merely the playwrights, but also the epic poets are well represented—Homer, Virgil, Dante, Milton, Byron and Goethe, each with his masterpiece. There are many pleasant evenings in store for you in the company of these greatest entertainers, as well as with the masters of the play.

## An Invaluable Anthology

Perhaps the most valuable of all the selective work done by Dr. Eliot in The Harvard Classics is the incomparable "Anthology of English Verse." These three volumes of the set are a veritable literary treasure house. The word "anthology" in its Greek derivation signifies a "gathering of flowers," and truly the flower of all English poetry is here assembled. From quaint Geoffrey Chaucer, who wrote of the Canterbury Pilgrims of the fourteenth century, to nineteenth-century Bret Harte's

songs of the New World's seekers after El Dorado, every great poet of the English-speaking race has adequate recognition. Every one of these poets is represented each by his *very best work complete.* Each poem is worthy of the writer's genius. They are all in truth what Tennyson called

> Jewels . . .
> That on the stretched forefinger of all Time
> Sparkle forever.

If you are a lover of good poetry you will find a rare pleasure in reading the great poems of all ages with Dr. Eliot. For, as he himself has said: "It is a source of exquisite and enduring delight to have one's mind stored with many melodious expressions of high thoughts and beautiful imagery."

And that phrase, with another of Dr. Eliot's, well sums up the chief purpose and service of The Harvard Classics: To furnish that source of "exquisite and enduring delight," and "to provide the means of obtaining such a knowledge of ancient and modern literature as seems essential to the twentieth-century idea of a cultivated man."

# The Reading Courses

DR. ELIOT'S reputation as an educator is a sufficient guarantee that any selection of books made by him will be well worth reading. He was not satisfied, however, merely to select the right books and properly edit them. If Dr. Eliot and his fellow workers had stopped there The Harvard Classics would have been a splendid collection of literature—nothing more. But Dr. Eliot did not stop. He is a great scholar, a great student of literature, but he is something bigger and more important than that—a great educator.

## Wonderful Reader's Guide

The most important book of the whole series is the last, the fiftieth volume. This contains Dr. Eliot's introduction, his complete reading courses, which give full directions for following any selected line of study, and an encyclopedic index containing more than 76,000 references. There is also a complete index of first lines of poems, etc. Then there is a chronological index of the great events in the world's history.

It would be difficult to overestimate the value of this last volume. It makes The Harvard Classics unique as an educational

library. It turns these fifty volumes into one great book. The Guide and Index show the reader how to follow a single thought through the entire library, how to take a consensus of opinion of the world's greatest thinkers on any conceivable subject.

## University Extension Courses

In effect, Dr. Eliot, his staff of assistants, and the various contributing educators, have practically mapped out a university extension course for the reader in any field in which he may be interested.

Contrast the value of these reading courses with the ordinary set of books in which the reader is left to plow his discouraged way through from volume one until the end, and you have an immediate appreciation of the superiority of The Harvard Classics. The reading course on Politics, for instance—to take an example at random—directs you first to Plutarch's Lives, which begin on page five of volume twelve; you are turned back then to the letters of Cicero and of Pliny the Younger, which are found in volume nine; Machiavelli's Prince, found in volume thirty-six, is the next topic in the course, and so on through the list until you are brought down to Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, which appears in volume forty-three. Having completed the course, you have traversed the whole field of political literature from the days of Greece to modern times: you have done the reading in an orderly fashion, which leaves the mind, at the end, with a well-defined

impression instead of merely a jumble of facts. You have, in fact, enjoyed the benefit of a university reading course, such a course as might be mapped out for you were you in attendance at the university itself, except that your privilege is greater in one respect, even than that of the students of Harvard University, for your course has been marked out for you by Dr. Eliot himself.

And what has been said of the course on politics applies equally to the reading courses on science or history or the drama, or the subject of your particular interest, whatever that may be.

## The Real Value of the Set

In truth the real value of the other forty-nine volumes is wrapped up within the covers of the fiftieth. It is this volume which justifies Dr. Eliot in regarding The Harvard Classics as a "useful extension of his educational work." Without it the average man would wander aimlessly through the fifty volumes, wasting much of his energy and deriving from what he read only an indefinite and confused impression. With the guidance which the reading courses afford, all this is changed; it becomes possible for even the casual reader to prove the truth of Dr. Eliot's claim that fifteen minutes a day devoted to The Harvard Classics will not be wasted.

# The Making of The Five-Foot Shelf

THE story of The Harvard Classics, from idea to printed books, is as interesting as fiction. The idea was of slow growth. Even before Sir John Lubbock wrote out his selection of a "hundred best books," literary men had often amused and interested themselves and their friends making similar lists. These discussions were more or less idle and led nowhere. It was a variation of the same spirit of curiosity which results in the selection of All-America football teams.

## The Conception of the Idea

Dr. Eliot, with his rare genius for arousing live interest in educational questions, was the first to take up this subject in a practical, sensible way. He himself describes the conception and development of the idea as follows:

"Some years ago in a speech before an educational gathering I chanced to say that a three-foot shelf would hold good books enough to give a liberal education to anyone who would read them with devotion, even if he could give but fifteen minutes a day to the task. This remark brought me a considerable number of letters, demanding a list of those books. I made several

efforts to make the list, but soon discovered that it was a serious undertaking, and that I had no time for it. Subsequently I saw reason to lengthen the shelf to five feet, but made very little progress toward a definite selection.

" Early in January last I received a proposal from the firm of P. F. Collier & Son that I undertake to make a selection of fifty volumes, of from four hundred to four hundred and fifty pages each, which would fill my five-foot shelf and be well adapted to accomplish the educational object I had in mind."

## Dr. Eliot Undertakes the Work

Dr. Eliot accepted the publishers' proposal in the spirit in which it was offered—as an educational project. The President and Fellows of Harvard indorsed the plan and gave their official approval of the use of the name " The Harvard Classics."

## Dr. Eliot's Career

Dr. Eliot was born in Boston in 1834 and graduated from Harvard at the age of nineteen. From 1869 to 1909 he served as President of Harvard, and after these forty years of honorable service retired with the title of President Emeritus. Under Dr. Eliot's presidency the university's buildings increased to three times, the students to four times, and the teachers and endowment funds to ten times their number when he accepted the presidency. When a man who has accomplished things like these says that he regards the editing of The Harvard

Classics as a useful extension of his educational work, it means something, does it not?

## Cooperation of Harvard University

Harvard University, the oldest and most influential educational institution in America, with its buildings and equipment occupying nearly a square mile, its annual income of two million dollars, its library of seven hundred and fifty thousand volumes, not only lent its approval to Dr. Eliot's undertaking, but also allowed many of the university professors to cooperate with editor and publisher in making the work a success.

## History of P. F. Collier & Son

The history of P. F. Collier & Son extends over thirty-seven years. The business was established in 1875 by the late Peter Fenelon Collier. Starting in business alone and unaided, with practically no capital, he built so rapidly and at the same time so solidly that the concern now owns and operates, on its own publications alone, one of the largest printing and bookbinding plants in America, and the revenue from these publications is in the neighborhood of $5,000,000 a year.

## 83,000,000 Books Published

Aside from the publishing of a great periodical, approximately 83,000,000 volumes were published from 1875 to 1914. Regardless of any one man's brain or energy, such an enormous figure could never have

been reached had not the books been of a class that was worth printing.

## Originator of the Subscription Plan

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MEMOIR - NOVEL

**ALLEN RUPPERSBERG**

NOT FOR SALE

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Distributed by JRP Editions, Genève.

Acknowledgements to Eric Decelle for his contribution.

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and Allen Ruppersberg (for the present edition).

2003

He lives there in two rooms which he had covered
from ceiling to floor with most strange
and troubling designs that made certain distinguished
critics repeat for the thousandth time:
It is nothing but Literature!

**Giorgio De Chirico**

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THE MASTER OF THE FAMILIAR (PRIVATE)
CHAPTER ONE. BRECKSVILLE, OHIO
CHAPTER TWO. OBITUARIES

Honey, I rearranged the collection by thinking only about the nationalities of the artists and not the works themselves. Sound familiar?

**THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF**
**Memoir/Novel/Index**

THE SECRET OF LIFE AND DEATH 1977
PARTIAL TEXT FROM THE SECRET OF LIFE AND DEATH,
A WORK IN 5 PARTS:
THE SECRET OF LIFE AND DEATH
THE FIRST STEP OF THE GUILTY
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SECRET DEATH THE AND LIFE OF
TRY AGAIN, MR. PENN

One Marcel

CHAPTER ONE
BRECKSVILLE, OHIO

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and forget everything I know about art. I'm not a connoisseur and neither are you.

**I HAVE A BOOK I WANT YOU TO READ**

SOME MEN CRY SECRETLY FOR THE PAST. OTHERS DO NOT.

Marcel Duchamp is dead at 81; enigmatic giant of modern art

ADDRESS: 5011 OAKES RD
CITY / ST: BRECKSVILLE, OHIO
ZIP:

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm sick of thinking about art! It's boring.

**"Every passion borders on the chaotic, but the collector's passion borders on the chaos of memories." Walter Benjamin, "Unpacking My Library"**

SOME MEN BELIEVE TURNER TO BE THE FATHER OF MODERN PAINTING. OTHERS DO NOT.

Paris, Oct. 2. 1968. Marcel Duchamp, one of the most influential artists of the century, died last night in his studio in the Paris suburb of Neuilly.

OWNER PHONE: (216) 526-7661
TOTAL BLDG SF: 1,712
YEAR BUILT: 1939

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that art has nothing to do with professors! Ugh!!

**A collage of vignettes or perhaps a collision between disparate disciplines. But also a coming-of-age tale.**

SOME MEN FORGIVE THEIR SONS. OTHERS DO NOT.

He collapsed just after having dinner with his wife and some friends.

STYLE: COLONIAL
STORIES: 2
EXTERIOR WALLS: ALUM / VINYL

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind you that I used to collect comics before I met you.

**"I decided that the only thing to do was to produce a really large work about all of the things I was interested in—the whole of one's life". Anthony Powell, 94, Chronicler of the Changing Fortunes of Britain's Upper Class, dies. Author of a 12 volume series, A Dance to the Music of Time.**

SOME MEN DISTINGUISH THEMSELVES AS MILITARY MEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

Duchamp, who was 81 years old, was a naturalized American citizen. He maintained homes here and in New York. Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

CONDITION: GOOD
ROOMS: 7
BEDROOMS: 4

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and change the ideas about art that the trustees have when they come over tonight.

**An ambitious effort to trace the fortunes of a group of schoolmates from their adolescence at the outbreak of World War I to old age in the Britain of the early 70's.**

SOME MEN CAN YODEL. OTHERS CAN NOT.

## The Grand Dada

By Alexander Keneas

Like the smile of the Mona Lisa, which he retouched with moustache and goatee, Marcel Duchamp remained an enigma.

BATHS: 1

BATHS HALF: 1

GARAGE TYPE: DETACHED

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm tired of looking at the past.

**Over the years Mr. Powell rejected complicated interpretations of "Dance", insisting it dealt with "things as they are".**

FISH SOME MEN FLYING. NOT OTHERS DO.

Thrust into the international limelight by the 1913 Armory show, he abandoned his career only a decade later, at the age of 36.

GARAGE SPACES: 2
FLOOR 1 SQ FT: 936
FLOOR 2 SQ FT: 776

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to feel young like our works. I want to be remembered young.

**"THE HARVARD CLASSICS. Dr. Eliot's Five Foot Shelf of Books. From his forty years' experience as President of Harvard University, Dr. Eliot has chosen the few great books by**

SOME MEN SEE OTHER MEN WALK ON STILTS. OTHERS DO NOT.

Yet in half a century the enfant terrible who had thumbed his nose at the pantheon of art grew up to become the spiritual father of the pop generation,

"...A FRAGMENT OF PURE LIFE PRESERVED IN ITS PURITY, WHICH WE CAN ONLY KNOW WHEN IT IS SO PRESERVED BECAUSE,

Honey, I rearranged the collection by putting all the pieces back in their original positions from the 70's when we had the great parties with all the artists here.

**Scientists, Philosophers, Teachers, Historians and Romancers, Poets and Dramatists, Explores and Chroniclers, that are really essential to the 20th-century American.**

MEN FROM HAVE EUDORA LETTERS SOME WELTY RECEIVED. HAVE OTHERS NOT.

and Marcel Duchamp the artist had blossomed into Marcel Duchamp the idea.

IN THE MOMENT WHEN WE LIVE IT, IT IS NOT PRESENT TO OUR MEMORY, BUT SURROUNDED BY IMPRESSIONS WHICH SUPPRESS IT."
MARCEL PROUST, PREFACE TO "CONTRE SAINTE-BEUVE"

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if we have works by artists as they get older. Works from when they were 20, 30, 40, etc.

**He has picked from the writings of the greatest thinkers the few characteristic works which cover their main ideas—which best express their basic thoughts". Copy from a 1910 pamphlet advertising The Harvard Classics.**

LOOK FOR PRESERVATIVES BUT ANARCHY FOR MEN SETTLE SOME THEIR. NOT DO OTHERS.

The idea, however, posed more questions about the nature of art than it answered, for at its roots it was the idea of rejection.

REAL LIFE, LIFE AT LAST LAID BARE AND ILLUMINED-THE ONLY LIFE IN CONSEQUENCE WHICH CAN BE SAID TO BE REALLY LIVED—IS LITERATURE...
MARCEL PROUST, "TIME REGAINED"

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that all the dealers who come to the party tonight will see that we are not the "fake clients" they thought we were.

**"The soul of a biography should be not what do I know, but what don't I know? When the biographer turns the questions on himself. He peers in and out, interrogating his materials and himself". Richard Elder in a Times Book Review.**

SOME MEN REGRET THEIR PASSIONS AND ACCEPT RELIGION. OTHERS DO NOT.

"I'm afraid I'm an agnostic in art", Duchamp once said.

"LOOK MORE CLOSELY: BENEATH THESE SIMPLE THINGS LIE ALL THE SECRETS OF THE WORLD"
MARCEL PROUST

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are nice people.

**Come around to my home tonight; I want to show you some books I believe you will enjoy.**

SOME MEN HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM EUDORA WELTY. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

"I just don't believe in it with all the mystical trimmings. As a drug, it's probably very useful for a number of people, very sedative, but as religion it's not even as good as God."

IN LOVING MEMORY

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to please my father who is coming at 8.

**From Everlasting to Everlasting**
**And Song and Dance and Eyes and Heart**
**And Horizon Line**_____

SOME MEN RETREAT FROM THEIR VULNERABILITY INTO PANIC. OTHERS DO NOT.

Duchamp was the quintessence of the Dada spirit. Unlike other figures in the movement who would go on after World War I to become serious painters,

MAY 3, 1965
SUNDAY EVENING
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind myself of when I was young and art was cheap.

**Le Mot Juste and The Circus is Coming**
**And East of Eden and/or Amor and**

DIFFERENT MEN OTHER THAN THEY ARE BELIEVE MEN SOME. OTHERS DO NOT.

to assimilate subsequent artistic developments, he carried the vaudeville of esthetic nihilism to its logical conclusion.

SPRING HAS FINALLY ARRIVED IN FULL FORCE... I AM SITTING HERE IN YOUR ROOM WITH THE WINDOW WIDE OPEN AND LOOKING OUT AT THE MAPLE TREE AND THE JAPANESE CRAB JUST ABOUT READY TO COME OUT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to include only artists we have books on. Not catalogs but books.

**Always Spring and Every Fruit and**
**The Race goes on and on.**
**from The Sky Above The Mud Below 1988**

BUT ABSOLUTELY MEN LUCKLESS SOME FAITHFUL RESOLUTELY ARE. NOT ARE OTHERS.

His exit was final, and the perfect complement to his output as an artist.

TODAY WAS A WONDERFUL DAY; SUNNY AND THE TEMPERATURE IN THE 80'S.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by putting our original work–the Man Ray photo–with the new 90's photographers. Does it work?

**THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF**
**Memoir/Novel/Index**

SOME MEN HAVE A SENSE OF THEIR HUMILIATION, PAIN AND LOSS. OTHERS DO NOT.

Thus his life, as well as his much shorter career, was looked upon as esthetically significant (or insignificant, for some critics regarded the withdrawal of the Grand Dada as an escape from his own inadequacies as an artist).

IT HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE I REALLY WROTE A LETTER, JUST A NOTE LAST WEEK SO WILL BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON OUR GOINGS ON. WE HAVE STARTED THE LAWN MOWING OPERATION. I DID THE FRONT YARD TWO WEEKS AGO AND YESTERDAY DID THE COMPLETE JOB.

Honey, I rearranged the collection so it looks like a map of the world. One country, one artist. But only ones who are really identified with their country. Like Dali is Spanish and Bacon is English.

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SOME MEN ARE BORN TO GOOD LOOKS AND SACRIFICE ONLY FOR WOMEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

But for the most part Duchamp maintained an aristocratic detachment and reserbe from such speculations, politely nodding in acquiescence to the legend that he gabe up art to play chess;

I KNOW THIS IS THE TIME OF YEAR YOU MISS, WITH EVERYTHING GETTING GREEN AND THE BUDS COMING OUT, ETC. IT'S A LITTLE EARLY AS THE TREES HAVEN'T STARTED YET OTHER THAN THE WILLOWS. WON'T BE LONG UNTIL IT WILL BE GARDEN TIME TOO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I felt old. All our artists are dead.

**The rearrangement of Everything. A collection of notes, letters, quotes, photos, words, works, texts, books, ideas, stories, poems, etc. A personal reference library.**

SOME MEN FEEL THEY ARE FAILURES AND LIVE IN SMALL TOWNS FURTHER DOWN THE COAST. OTHERS DO NOT.

or, with a thin smile crossing his sharply featured, ascetically gaunt face, describing his occupation of later years as that of "respirateur".

WE WERE ALL TOGETHER ON EASTER AND THEN THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY, DAD'S BIRTHDAY, GRANDMA AND RUTH CAME OUT FOR SUPPER AND TO STAY THE NIGHT, BUT DIDN'T GO HOME UNTIL—SUNDAY NIGHT!...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because we can't move anymore. Zurich was the last.

**One thing into another. Biography into index. Memoir into Novel. Sculpture into History. Autobiography into Art.**

SOME MEN SEE THINGS OTHERS SHOULD NOT AND DOUBT WHAT THEY HEAR. OTHERS DO NOT.

He was, in the words of Lawrence Alloway, former curator of the Guggenheim Museum, "the Duke of Windsor of Modern Art".

HELEN AND BILL KELLOGG ARE LEAVING TUESDAY FOR L.A. ...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to separate works we got from studios from those we bought in galleries.

**"It's not the parts that matter it is their combination." Nabokov**

CLIFFS ARE ONLY MEN FROM SOME SEEN WINDY. ARE OTHERS NOT.

And even in his abdication he commanded the esteem of the avant-garde.

MY ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN STEPPED UP THESE LAST FEW WEEKS... I HAVEN'T BEEN HOME FOR A FULL DAY MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK FOR ABOUT THE LAST MONTH...

Honey, I rearranged the collection substituting books for paintings.

**Dr. Eliot's original Five Foot Shelf turns into THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF, a different kind of catalog for ideas, memories, and themes. A telescoping view of my studio from exterior to interior presented in books, photographs and posters. One shell inside of another getting smaller and smaller.**

SOME MEN WANT TO CLAIM AS THEIR OWN A TRUE AND UNIVERSAL IDEA OF GOD. OTHERS DO NOT.

"Posterity has to decide"

I SURE WISH WE WERE PLANNING ON A TRIP OUT THERE IN JUNE... NOTHING I'D LIKE BETTER AS YOU WELL KNOW...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the fundamentals of trash sorting!

**The studio turns into a set of books.**

THE WIND MADE HER ANGRY. WARM AND DUSTY, WITH A COLLECTIVE FRAGRANCE THAT CAME FROM ALL THE DESERTS OF THE WORLD. IT ARRIVED IN ELSINORE WITH THE ARROGANCE OF A YOUNG SOLDIER HOME ON HIS FIRST LEAVE. (CONT.)

"It is disastrous for an artist to declare, to defend his art", he said to a reporter late last year. "Posterity has to decide, and even if it is wrong all over the place it has the advantage of coming into being.

YOU HAVE BEEN HAVING QUITE A TIME YOURSELF, LATELY, WITH YOUR TRIPS AND SOCIAL LIFE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I didn't want to go to the ballet. I hate those people.

**The set of books turns into a sculpture.**

SOME MEN RESIST THE DESIRE TO BE ADORED BY WOMEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

I wish I could live another hundred years." "But", he added with a pensive smile and a moments pause,

IT WAS NICE OF JULIE TO CALL US AS WE WERE BEGINNING TO WONDER WHAT HAPPENED...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by applying card suit marking–hearts, diamonds, etc.–to our collection index cards and then shuffled them like a deck of cards. The winning hand was the works which I hung in the main room.

**The sculpture turns into an installation.**

SOME MEN INHERIT IDEALS. OTHERS DO NOT.

"perhaps it would be better to be dead. You see I find it perfectly acceptable to contradict myself."

DEAR ALLEN:

SUNDAY NIGHT

WELL HERE IT IS AT THE END OF THE DAY AND NOW I WISH I HAD WRITTEN THIS AFTERNOON INSTEAD OF FIXING THE KITCHEN RADIO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and remember the days when I had the gallery. It was so exciting then.

**The installation turns into a room.**

THEIR TASTES SEEK CATHOLIC MEN BEYOND SOME PERVERSIONS. NOT DO OTHERS.

Contradiction formed an important part of the ideological and artistic universe that Duchamp had created for himself. Finding scientific laws to be arbitrary, he formulated his own. "Why, he asked,

WHILE GRANDMA WAS HAVING A NAP AFTER DINNER AND MOM, MARTHA AND AUNT RUTH WERE RECLINING IN THE BACK YARD

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I always wanted to be an artist.

**The room turns into photographs.**

SOME MEN HAVE THE CAPACITY TO CARE FOR WOMEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

must we worship principles which in 50 or 100 years will no longer apply?" He responded by devising a personal logic in which cause and effect became subject to chance,

I TOOK THE TUBES OUT-IT HAD STOPPED WORKING LAST WEEK-AND WENT TO CHECK THEM AT THE CENTER. BY THE TIME I HAD THE SET BACK TOGETHER THEY WERE READY TO PLAY CARDS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I have secret conversations with each work. We have our own language and each rearrangement is the result of a dialogue. This is dialogue #10.

**The photographs turn into pages.**

HAVE SMALL MEN NOISES AND SOME INSOMNIA FOR LISTEN. DO OTHERS NOT.

and reality shifted through visual and verbal puns. In his universe an apple might not choose to "condescend" to the laws of grabity; the act of love might, in mock deference to 20th-century science, exist as a fourth dimension ritual of machines.

YOUR LETTER WAS MOST COMPLETE AND DETAILED MAKING IT QUITE UNDERSTANDABLE WHY YOU DECIDED ON YOUR PRESENT PROGRAM...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to some old ideas from advertising about art.

**The pages turn into books.**

SOME MEN ARE SAID TO BE CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY. OTHERS ARE NOT.

It was all very seriously tongue in cheek, yet it was also especially appealing to more than a generation of intellectuals who felt that science had stripped them of traditional values and left them spiritually bankrupt.

MAY 10, 1965
SUNDAY NIGHT
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists who hate each other and who hate their dealers (that we also hate).

**The books turn into volumes.**

COWARDICE MEN THEIR SOME REVEAL. NOT OTHERS DO.

If Duchamp did not provide the cure for spiritual malaise he at least offered wit, absurdity and the humor of paradox as anodyne.

JUST GOT HOME FROM LAKEWOOD 8:15, SO WILL FILL YOU IN ON THE DETAILS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind you to put some more money in the bank.

**The volumes turn into a set.**

THE WIND WAS HERE. EVERYWHERE. ALL THE TIME. AND NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME, IT WAS VISIBLE. LIKE GOD HAD BECOME VISIBLE TO HER IN CHURCH, AS A CHILD, SHE COULD NOW SEE THE WIND IN ELSINORE. (CONT.)

Yet Duchamp's works also pointed to more positive concepts of art that would be articulated by generations to come: the illusion of painting giving way to the reality of the three-dimensional object, the self-effacement of the artist, the object competing and merging with its environment.

WE STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE THUNDERSTORM THAT WAS PREDICTED FOR TODAY. HOWEVER THE WIND IS SPRINGING UP AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL GET IT SOON. HOPE IT ISN'T ANOTHER VIOLENT ONE LIKE WE HAD A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection into 2 categories: didactic/boring and pictures.

**The set turns into a collection.**

SOME MEN ARE EITHER WARRIORS OR SAUSAGES. OTHERS DO NOT.

Cubists or Octagonists "There is no reason why people should not call themselves Cubists, or Octagonists, Parallelopipedonists, or Knights of the Isosceles Triangle, or Brothers of the Cosine, if they so desire; as expressing anything serious or permanent, one term is as fatuous as another."

THIS HOT WEATHER SURE BROUGHT OUT THE FLOWERS AND TREES. THE SINGLE PEONY HAD ABOUT TWO BLOSSOMS OUT YESTERDAY AND TODAY THEY POPPED OUT ALL OVER, THE SAME WITH THE LILAC BUSH.

Honey, I rearranged the collection just to try and remember everything!

The collection turns into a library.

SOME MEN REVEAL THEIR COWARDICE. OTHERS DO NOT.

With these words Theodore Roosevelt joined the rank of Americans who in a few short weeks were turned into art critics by the 1913 Armory Show.

THE PEONIES ARE SO FRAGILE AND EVERY YEAR THEY JUST GET OUT WHEN ALONG COMES A STORM AND KNOCKS THEM ALL TO PIECES.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to feel normal again.

**The library turns into posters.**

SOME MEN SIT IN HOLES AND HOLD THEIR BREATH. OTHERS DO NOT.

At the center of public ridicule, heaped primarily on the Cubist section of the exhibition, Duchamp's "Nude-Descending a Staircase" stood as the symbol of the insanity to which modern art had progressed.

THE PLACE SURE LOOKS NICE, ALL NEWLY MOWED AND FORSYTHIA,TULIPS, APPLE AND CHERRY BLOSSOMS ALL IN BLOOM. WISH YOU COULD SEE IT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to make it look more like it would in the museum. If they would take it.

**The posters turn into sculpture.**

SOME MEN HAVE INSOMNIA AND LISTEN FOR SMALL NOISES. OTHERS DO NOT.

The association of American Painters and Sculptors, organizers of the show, not only anticipated the clamor that America's first exposure to Europe's new, non-representational painting would generate;

I IMAGINE BY NOW YOU HAVE HEARD FROM THE KELLOGGS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection in accord with the number of parties we have seen each artist at. The most number of parties or dinners the more works are up. Openings are not included.

**Sculpture turns into architecture.**

SHE WAS UNNOTICED. THERE WOULD SOON BE QUESTIONS. CASUAL AT FIRST, THEN DARTING, SHARP AND SUSPICIOUS. WITH THE PAUSES AND CONSIDERATIONS STRUCTURED BETWEEN THEM AS TIGHTLY AS AN OLD COMEDIAN'S FAMILIAR MONOLOGUES. (CONT.)

they also helped to create a circus atmosphere for its inspection. Press releases deluged the newspapers, which responded enthusiastically with satirical cartoons and derisive commentary.

WE HAD SORTA PLANNED ON GOING TO COLUMBUS THIS WEEK-END WHICH WAS ONE REASON WE HADN'T MADE ANY RESERVATIONS TO EAT OUT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the artists who complain and those who don't.

**Architecture turns into references.**

OR MEN SAUSAGES SOME WARRIORS EITHER ARE. OTHERS DO NOT.

The "Nude" became an "explosion in a shingle factory" and "a collection of saddlebags". Big crowds filed into the 69th Regiment Armory, at Lexington Avenue and 25th Street, and guards had to restrain outraged art lovers from damaging the painting.

BETTY AND BERT ARE LEAVING NEXT WEEK TO VISIT BOB IN BALTIMORE AND THEN GO ON TO WILLIAMSBURG... I GUESS THIS IS IT FOR NOW... LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to remind us what fun it is to buy art, and live downtown.

**References turn into an index.**

SOME MEN SEEK PERVERSIONS BEYOND THEIR CATHOLIC TASTES. OTHERS DO NOT.

It was neither the nude nor the staircase, apparently, that had provoked them, but the title, painted on the canvas, which seemed to have little to do with either, and the idea of a nude descending instead of traditionally reclining or standing.

MAY 25, 1965
MONDAY NIGHT
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show the "holes" in it according to you know who.

**The index turns into a table of contents.**

THE CONSTANT WIND WHICH MADE THE DESPERATION SO APPARENT REMINDED HER OF THE ESSAYS ON CALIFORNIA BY HER FRIEND JOAN DIDION. (CONT.)

Time and Space Duchamp carefully explained the painting: "It is an organization of kinetic elements, an expression of time and space through the abstract presentation of motion".

...SURE WISH THE DOLLARS GREW ON BUSHES SO YOU COULD FLY HOME AND ENJOY THE SPRINGTIME FOR A FEW DAYS. IT REALLY IS SWELL RIGHT NOW WITH ALL THE GREEN BUSHES AND TREES PLUS THE FLOWERING SHRUBS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and eliminated all the Americans.

**The table of contents turns into notes.**

TO WOMEN HAVE FOR SOME THE MEN CARE CAPACITY. NOT OTHERS DO.

In trying to consider the notion of form through space, in a given time, he said it was necessary "to enter the realm of geometry and mathematics".

I DON'T BELIEVE I EVER SAW THE WHITE BRIDLE WREATH SO BEAUTIFUL. IN CASE YOU AREN'T FAMILIAR WITH THE NAME, IT IS THE LONG, SLENDER STEMS LINED WITH TINY WHITE FLOWERS AND THE BUSH LOOKS LIKE A HUGH BOUQUET. OURS IS BY THE FRONT WINDOW IN THE LIVING ROOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using a vase, a book and a piece of furniture as sight lines for our best piece. See it?

**The notes turn into captions.**

SOME MEN STILL BELIEVE ALL IS FOR THE BEST. OTHERS DO NOT.

"Now if I show the ascent of an airplane, I try to show what it does", he continued. "I do not make a still-life picture of it. When the vision of the "Nude" flashed upon me, I knew that it would break forever the enslaving chains of naturalism."

THE LILAC LOOKING IN THE BEDROOM WINDOW WAS ALSO LOVELY THIS YEAR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that all the works are hung by the age of the artist when he made the work. Oldest first.

**The captions turn into stories.**

SOME MEN UNDERSTAND THE CODE OF POISONS. OTHERS DO NOT.

Half a century after the Armory Show, Duchamp recalled the indignation that had made his name a household word: "I found it very pleasant because after all my aim was not to please the general public. The scandal was exactly in my program, you might say. Also I received $240. That also was very pleasant."

WE HAVE THE ADDED INTEREST IN IT AS A REDBIRD HAS A NEST JUST AT EYE LEVEL SO YOU CAN STAND THERE AND LOOK RIGHT AT THE MRS. SITTING ON HER EGGS. I SURE HOPE NOTHING HAPPENS TO THEM AS I NEVER HAVE SEEN BABY CARDINALS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show how many pieces we have bought each year. We have bought 2,343 pieces in just over 3 years.

**The stories turn into a novel.**

SOME MEN USE THE WORDS OF OTHER MEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

The Picture, which hangs in the Arensberg collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, is now valued at more than $250,000.

YESTERDAY WE HAD A FULL HOUSE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because the appraiser is coming in tomorrow.

**The novel turns into history.**

CAPABLE BECOMING MEN OF GREAT SOME. NOT OTHERS ARE.

Marcel Duchamp was born in Blainville, near Rouen, on July 28, 1887, the third son of a family remarkable for its contribution to art of this century.

AUNT ANNA IS STAYING HERE THIS WEEK AND EITHER RUTH OR DAD WILL TAKE HER HOME NEXT WEEK...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show how much room we have for more art. We need more drawings.

**History turns into objects.**

SOME MEN HAVE SEEN AN EASTERN SHORE. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

His eldest brother, Gaston (Jacques Villon) was to achieve international renown as a painter before his death in 1963. Another brother, Raymond (Duchamp-Villon), who was killed during World War I, had been one of the most gifted sculptors of his generation: a younger sister, Suzanne, would also become a painter.

I NOTICED THAT THE FOR SALE SIGN ON THE HIGGINS PLACE IS FINALLY DOWN AND IT IS MARKED "SOLD". THAT REALLY WAS A HARD ONE TO SELL. I DON'T THINK IT IS VERY ATTRACTIVE FROM THE OUTSIDE ALTHO' MARTHA SAYS IT WAS NICE ON THE INSIDE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and installed only the works we searched hardest for, and that I feel the most certain about their long-time value.

**And objects turn into biography.**

SOME MEN ARE SEEN ONLY FROM WINDY CLIFFS. OTHERS ARE NOT.

With the blessings of his parents, Eugene Duchamp, a prosperous notary, and Lucie-Nicole Duchamp, Marcel left home at the age of 17 to pursue a career in art. He arrived in Paris at the twilight of an epoch.

THE LITTLE RED BRICK ONE ACROSS FROM IT IS FOR SALE FOR $24,900. I CALLED UP TO SEE IF THEY EVER TOOK A LOT IN EXCHANGE FOR THE DOWN PAYMENT BUT NEVER GOT AN ANSWER. SAID THEY WOULD FIND OUT AND CALL ME BACK BUT GUESS THEY WEREN'T INTERESTED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in the same way as the record collection but different from the rare books.

**Biography turns into biographers.**

RESIST MEN BE WOMEN BY SOME DESIRE TO THE ADORED. DO NOT OTHERS.

In just a few years, Braque and Picasso were to shatter the conventions of representational art with Cubism; soon Futurism would compete with Cubism for the attentions of the avant-garde, and Dada would insist on sweeping away established values.

WE WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE MILLER RD. LOT AND THAT WAS A POSSIBILITY. COULD RENT IT TO TAKE CARE OF THE PAYMENTS. IT'S A CUTE LITTLE PLACE RIGHT ON THE EDGE OF THE WOODS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by artists associated with the Frankfurt School and those who know nothing about it. Artists from the 80's mostly.

**The biographer turns into an author.**

SOME MEN HAVE SAID AT THE END OF THEIR LIVES, "I'LL GO BACK TO LIVE IN MALIBU AGAIN AND SEE THE WAVES I USED TO SURF IN WHEN I WAS YOUNGER AND SEE THE BEAUTIFUL VEGETATION OF CALIFORNIA. I WAS ALWAYS HAPPIEST THERE." OTHERS HAVE NOT.

He enrolled at the Académie Julian in 1904 and took up quarters with his brother Jacques. But the Académie soon lost its glamour.

TOMORROW AUNT ANNA IS INVITED TO GO WITH ME TO MY BRIDGE CLUB AND WEDNESDAY DOROTHY IS TAKING US TO LUNCH AT THE BROWN DERBY...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with works that seemed relevant at the time and are now passé but which we still like.

**The author turns into an artist.**

SOME MEN HAVE CAUGHT A STUMBLING, DRUNKEN JUDY GARLAND IN THEIR ARMS. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

"I was already disgusted with the cuisine of painting", he said later. "I played mostly billiards at the time".

WE HAD THE GARDEN PLOWED BUT IT ISN'T FITTED YET...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists other artists contend are "garbage" in one room and the works artists like in the other.

**The artist turns into a subject.**

SOME MEN SIT BY WATERHOLES IN AFRICA AND WATCH CHEETAHS AT NIGHT. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

After a year of military service the young painter returned to Paris. He had already demonstrated an easy technical grasp of Cézanne and Matisse when he began to experiment with the geometry and muted colors of Cubism.

OCTOBER 24, 2000
ROBERT LAX, 84, MINIMALIST POET KNOWN FOR EXPERIMENTAL FORMS
BY ERIC PACE

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see all the works we have gotten from other people's collections.

**The subject turns into a text.**

BLEEDING STIGMATICS, ARE MEN ON FRIDAYS SOME. ARE NOT OTHERS.

Unlike his brothers, however, who were to adapt their own sensibilities to Cubism, Marcel again began to alter his style. Like the Futurists he employed a succession of flat overlapping planes to depict spatial movement of machine-like forms.

ROBERT LAX, AN AMERICAN MINIMALIST POET WHO WAS PRAISED FOR HIS ORIGINALITY AND SPIRITUALITY, DIED ON SEPT. 26 AT HIS FAMILY'S HOME IN OLEAN, N.Y. HE WAS 84.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to 2 categories: nice and not nice.

**The text turns into a book.**

—MONEY TALKS. BULLSHIT WALKS. (CONT.)

He also supplemented his work with verbal, extra visual ideas. His famous "Nude" had in fact started as a sketch for a poem.

MR. LAX MOVED BACK TO OLEON LAST MONTH AFTER LIVING ABROAD FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS, MOST RECENTLY ON THE GREEK ISLAND OF PATMOS. HE HAD BEEN IN FAILING HEALTH FOR SOME MONTHS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection using artists with narrow social themes and artists with broad romantic ones.

**The book turns into my studio.**

SOME MEN HAVE SEEN SHANGRI-LA. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

In 1912, after making several preliminary studies of the "Nude", he submitted it to the Puteaux circle's exhibition at the Salon des Indépendants.

ONE OF MR. LAX'S CLOSEST FRIENDS WAS THOMAS MERTON, THE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS WRITER AND POET, WHO DIED IN 1968. THEY WERE CLASSMATES AS UNDERGRADUATES AT COLUMBIA.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I can't remember individual works anymore and it gives me something to do.

**How one thing becomes another as a Guide to THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF. My studio rearranged and condensed. Then THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF is rearranged and condensed. 50 into one. Condensed and transformed. A synopsis.**

FOR CRY THE SOME PAST SECRETLY MEN. NOT DO OTHERS.

The Futuristic elements of the painting angered the members of the group, and at the request of his brothers he withdrew the work.

IN HIS BOOK "THE SEVEN STORY MOUNTAIN" (HARCOURT, 1948), MERTON RECALLED MR. LAX AS A STUDENT AS A "A KIND OF COMBINATION OF HAMLET AND ELIAS" AND "A POTENTIAL PROPHET, BUT WITHOUT THE RAGE" WITH "A MIND FULL OF TREMENDOUS AND SUBTLE INTUITIONS".

Honey, I rearranged the collection using the works we have never had up before but can't remember how they were assembled in the first place. Mostly things from the 70's.

**When In Doubt Go To The Movies. Chapter One. 611 Broadway. The Master Of The Familiar. Chapter One. Brecksville, Ohio.**

IF YOU MAKE IT SOMEBODY TAKES IT AWAY FROM YOU. IF YOU SPEND IT NO ONE CARES. (CONT.)

Duchamp recalled: "I put the painting under my arm, got into a taxi and went home. After that groups meant very little to me".

RICHARD KOSTELANETZ WROTE IN THE NYTBR IN 1978 THAT MR. LAX WAS "AMONG AMERICA'S GREATEST EXPERIMENTAL POETS, A TRUE MINIMALIST WHO CAN WEAVE AWESOME POEMS FROM REMARKABLY FEW WORDS".

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't really think of myself as a collector. You are.

**How it works: THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF is a collection of books and posters. My studio of the last 15 years is collapsed into a 50 volume set of books and a corresponding set of posters. The 44 posters reproduce the studio on a one to one scale and when they are assembled it recreates the studio as it was at 611 Broadway.**

SOME MEN RECOGNIZE THE GREAT SHOCK AND DEVASTATION IN OTHERS. OTHERS DO NOT.

**Playful physics** In the years preceding the war, he and the artist Francis Picabia, who shared each other's sense of iconoclastic wit and absurd humor, became close friends.

HIS POETRY GREW INCREASINGLY MINIMALIST AS TIME PASSED. SOME POEMS CONTAINED ONLY SINGLE WORDS RUNNNING DOWN THE PAGE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in an attempt to put some order into my life after having none. Happy now?

**The books are an exact reproduction of the Harvard Classics, Dr. Eliot's Five Foot Shelf Of Books published in 1910 by P.F. Collier & Son. It provided in about 22,000 pages a knowledge of ancient and modern literature that seemed essential to the idea of a cultivated man. It came in a handsomely bound set of 50 volumes of about 350 pages each.**

SHE HEARD THE MEN SAY: —SHE RAN THE MEXICAN OLYMPICS. RAN THE ONE HUNDRED YARD DASH. MADE HER FAST AND LONG-WINDED. (CONT.)

Both had been familiar with earlier practitioners of the genre: Alfred Jarry, the playwright who, suffering from malnutrition, on his deathbed had asked for a toothpick,

MR. LAX'S MAIN EARLY WORK AND ONE OF HIS MOST HIGHLY PRAISED IS "THE CIRCUS OF THE SUN" ( FRANCISCAN INSTITUTE, 1959 ), A VOLUME OF POETRY THAT LIKENS THE CIRCUS TO CREATION.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in a totally new way. I took the number of pieces we have in total and then added up the number of parts in each of them. I then divided the sum of the parts by the total and distributed them evenly so that now each piece has the same number of parts. Its mostly 70's narrative stuff.

**I have reproduced them (on the outside) exactly as they were. On the inside, one volume of the books is a second photographic record of the studio that serves as an index. The first volume is attributed to the manuel. The other 48 volumes are a collection of texts which represent a part of the unseen interior and symbolic sense of the space.**

SOME MEN ATTEMPT PERFECTION AND SPEND THEIR LIVES RUTHLESSLY. OTHERS DO NOT.

and Eric Satie, the composer who, criticized for writing shapeless music, offered a work entitled "Three Pieces in the Form of a Pear".

THE BOOK CONTAINS THIS STANZA:

Honey, I rearranged the collection 5 times since you went out. I was so angry I couldn't buy anything new.

**The text pages are arranged so as to appear to be captions for selected pages of the index as well as a narrative which runs throughout all of the volumes. They can be read one sentence, one page, or one book at a time. There are 16 pages of text in each book.**

BEAUTIFUL DAY.
GOOD DAY FOR A MURDER. (CONT.)

In this spirit, Duchamp developed a "playful physics". Dissatisfied with the meter as a fixed unit of measurement, he created his own, painstakingly scientific unit.

"AND IN THE BEGINNING WAS LOVE.
LOVE MADE A SPHERE; ALL THINGS
GREW WITHIN IT; THE SPHERE THEN

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind myself that we have all these pieces and that we can buy more!

**Four signatures of each volume are printed, the rest are left blank. Into this empty space I have randomly inserted a selection of obituaries, mostly of artists, from my collection.**

SOME MEN ARE ABSOLUTELY FAITHFUL BUT RESOLUTELY LUCKLESS. OTHERS ARE NOT.

He cut pieces of thread exactly one meter in length and dropped them on painted canvas from a height of exactly one meter.

ENCOMPASSED BEGINNINGS AND
ENDINGS, BEGINNING AND END.

Honey, I rearranged the collection since the museum doesn't like it as it is. Now it has their categories. 'A' artists, 'B' artists, etc.

**Mixing real time with fictional time, a piece of the studio and a piece of the actual world mark a page in a purely imaginary space. Since the work can be read in many ways and directions at the same time, I have left many bookmarks to plot the course.**

SHE SAW THE CHURCHES AND THE SUSPICION. BUT IT WAS SUSPICION OF A DIFFERENT ORDER. NOT A SUSPICION OF GOD, FOR IN ELSINORE THAT BLOWS QUICKLY AWAY.

He then varnished them in the chance positions they had assumed and had wooden rulers cut from them. Later he used the rulers to trace lines in his big unfinished work on transparent glass, "The Bride Stripped Bare By Her Bachelors, Even".

LOVE HAD A COMPASS WHOSE
WHIRLING DANCE TRACED OUT A

Honey, I rearranged the collection starting with the biggest piece with the most parts and ending with the smallest piece with no parts.

**When everything has been completely rearranged and put back together again and again by the viewer, a very private world is opened up for all to see. One collection placed inside the container of another. A old space is filled with new information.**

**BUT A SUSPICION THAT MAYBE IT'S YOU WHO WILL FINALLY TAKE THE LAST SOMETHING AWAY. AND THE LAST OF ANYTHING IS ALWAYS PROTECTED. (CONT.)**

Meanwhile he had begun to question the visual basis of art. "I wanted to get away from the physical aspects of painting", he once explained. "I was interested in ideas, not merely in visual products. I wanted to put painting again in the service of the mind."

SPHERE OF LOVE IN THE VOID; IN
THE CENTER THEREOF ROSE A FOUNTAIN".

Honey, I rearranged the collection starting with the smallest piece by a minor artist.

**An index is a type of sign which arises as the physical manifestation of a cause, of which traces, imprints, and clues are examples. In this case, the photographs of the studio bear an indexical relationship to the works and ideas which came out of it rather than the objects seen in the photographs.**

SOME MEN FEEL A LOSS IN MODERN ART. OTHERS DO NOT.

In 1913 he produced the first of his "readymades", the everyday objects he elevated by mere selection to the stature of art.

MR. LAX RECEIVED...
HE WAS BORN TO...
HE GREW UP IN OLEON ON LONG ISLAND...

Honey, I rearranged the collection starting with 2 artists whose names and works are interchangeable.

**A new MERZBAU, "some form of container for a variety of objects which bore commemorative and autobiographical significance".**

THE WIVES OF THE YOUNG MEN QUIETLY REVEALED THAT THE CUTENESS OF SEVENTEEN WAS RAPIDLY FADING INTO THE DESIRES THEY HAD ACCEPTED BY AGE TWELVE. (CONT.)

These parodistic gestures against what he considered the inflated importance of "retinal" art were to become the altarpieces of Pop artists and junk sculptors.

HIS WORK INCLUDES SOME WHIMSY LIKE THESE UNTITLED LINES:
"ARE YOU A VISITOR?" ASKED
THE DOG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with the best ugly artist and the worst good-looking one. Male-male, male-female, gay-straight, etc.

**A room folded into a set of books. An architectural autobiography. Another form of concrete poetry with the pages shuffled like cards and a rhythm to match.**

SOME MEN SING AND ADMIRE FRANK SINATRA. OTHERS DO NOT.

Tracing the development of the readymade, Duchamp said in Hans Richter's "Dada: Art and Anti-Art": "In New York in 1915, I bought at a hardware store a snow shovel on which I wrote: in advance of a broken arm".

"YES" I ANSWERED.
"ONLY A VISITOR?" ASKED
THE DOG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using the pieces I liked the best and the ones you hate the most.

**"Everything takes the shape of what you put it in." Georges Braque**

MAYBE THE COMFORT IS KNOWLEDGE. KNOWLEDGE OF THE END. THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY ANYMORE. LIKE BEING LET OUT OF SCHOOL AT THE END OF THE DAY. OR BEING TAKEN TO A CLUB WHERE THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE POSTED ON THE WALL BUT ARE NOT MENTIONED. (CONT.)

"It was around that time that the word "readymade" came to my mind to designate this form of manifestation. A point that I want very much to establish is that the choice of these readymades was never dictated by esthetic delectation.

"YES" I ANSWERED.
"TAKE ME WITH YOU" SAID
THE DOG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to which galleries we bought them from and which museum wants them.

**What happens when the first line of Plato's Republic is used as a caption for a photo of the book itself?**

SOME MEN FEEL THE CORE AND STRUCTURE OF THINGS. OTHERS DO NOT.

The choice was based on a reaction of visual indifference with a total absence of good or bad taste... in fact a complete anesthesia.

JUNE 9, 1965
TUESDAY EVENING 6:30
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to showcase all the pieces the museum thinks are worthless.

**"...but because they looked like the torn picture books of childhood, like fragments of stories dancing in an open fire". The Last Tycoon, F. Scott Fitzgerald**

SOME MEN COLLECT DOLLS AND PHOTOS OF THE SEA. OTHERS DO NOT.

Sometimes I would add a graphic detail of presentation which, in order to satisfy my craving for alliterations, would be called "readymade aided",

BY THIS TIME YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT THE REGULAR LETTER WRITING TIME WENT BY WITH NARY A WORD BEING SCRIBBLED-OR TYPED...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only works by artists who don't produce anymore.

**"(How to Remember) It's the difference between day and night", he said.**

JUDY MEN IN CAUGHT ARMS STUMBLING, SOME HAVE A DRUNKEN THEIR GARLAND. NOT OTHERS HAVE.

At another time, wanting to expose the basic antinomy between art and "readymades", I imagined a "reciprocal readymade": use a Rembrandt as an ironing board!"

IT IS A GOOD THING WE PLANTED THE GARDEN THOUGH AND PUT UP THE "PEA FENCE", BECAUSE WE HAD SHOWERS YESTERDAY AND TODAY...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to promote all the artists New York said were a "no-no" in the 70's.

**What remains when all is done? Attempts to defer the moment of dying.**

DESPERATION HAS A VERY ACCEPTING QUALITY. THE JAY WAY MOTEL STANDING NEXT TO THE COTTAGES BECAME THE FIRST TEST. (CONT.)

With the outbreak of war, Duchamp, out of uniform because of a heart ailment, became a target of abuse in the midst of patriotic fervor. Never drawn by "the spectacle" of Parisian café life, he now shunned it almost entirely.

...DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOUR PAPERS HAVE HAD ANY COMMENT ABOUT THIS BEING LOCUST YEAR HERE OR NOT. I EITHER HAD FORGOTTEN HOW THEY WERE OR THEY NEVER HAVE BEEN SO BAD BEFORE. DO YOU REMEMBER THEM AT ALL?

Honey, I rearranged the collection with the critics' opinions of the "no-no" artists of the 70's and the "yes-yes" ones of the 80's.

**The volume numbers on the spine of the books do not match the volume numbers indicated on the title pages. Volume 1 on the spine may be Volume 12 on the title page.**

ON HER INITIAL PASS THROUGH THE TOWN SHE RECOGNIZED THE FAMILIAR FEELINGS. THE POSSIBILITIES AND OPTIONS SHE SENSED IN THE EDGES OF DESPERATION.

However, his reserve was soon to be challenged in New York.

THERE ARE SO MANY THAT THERE IS A CONTINUOUS NOISE A SHRILL SINGING AS DESCRIBED IN THE ARTICLE AS LONG AS THE SUN IS SHINING FROM JUST AFTER DAYBREAK UNTIL EVENING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using all artists who showed in defunct galleries; all dead artists who only showed in defunct galleries and all artists who only had one show before or after we bought their work.

**This way you can start anywhere and go forward and backward and not be as conscious of a specific order. If you arrange them according to the numbers on the spine you rearrange the order of the texts on the inside.**

WHAT WAS THE PERVERSE COMFORT THAT DREW AND COLLECTED THESE PEOPLE HERE LIKE STRANGERS TO AN EXOTIC BEAUTY THEY HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE? (CONT.)

He arrived here for the first time in 1915, as a celebrity for the scandal he had created in absentia. He quickly fell into an avant-garde artistic circle and glittering social milieu.

TODAY, AND PART OF YESTERDAY, THEY WERE QUIET BECAUSE OF THE RAIN. OF COURSE, THIS IS ONLY DISCERNIBLE OUT HERE IN THE COUNTRY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show regional artists who lived in N.Y.C. and international artists who live in N.Y.C.

**In the reverse, if you order them according to the volume numbers seen on the title pages you scramble the volume numbers and their categories of knowledge seen on the spines.**

JOY STREET WAS A DEAD END. AFTER ABOUT A MILE IT RAN INTO LAKE ELSINORE. OR TRIED TO. IT STOPPED SHORT A QUARTER MILE. WITHOUT EVEN A TURN-AROUND. (CONT.)

Women found wit in Duchamp's conversation, elegance in his manner and masculinity in his gray eyes, reddish blond hair, sharply defined features and trim build.

HOPE THEY DON'T DO TOO MUCH DAMAGE TO THE APPLE TREES AND IF I HAD KNOWN THEY WERE GOING TO BE SO BAD I WOULD HAVE TRIED TO SPRAY A COUPLE OF TREES SATURDAY EVEN IF I WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE EXHAUSTED...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists who drink and those who don't. Male only.

**NOTES** 1985-1988?

CAPABLE BECOMING MEN OF ARE GREAT SOME. NOT OTHERS ARE.

In 1917 Duchamp resigned from the Society of Independent Artists after it had reversed its policy of accepting for exhibition any work accompanied by a $6 entry fee.

JUNE 14, 1965
HI:

Honey, I rearranged the collection with works which have no date or signature only.

**THE MASTER OF THE FAMILIAR**
**The story is more important than the paper it's printed on.**

TO WOMEN HAVE FOR SOME THE MEN CARE CAPACITY.
NOT OTHERS DO.

The object of the controversy was "Fountain", a porcelain urinal turned upside down and signed by a Philadelphia sculptor, "R. Mutt." "Fountain" of course, was Duchamp's own contribution to the exhibition.

JUST READ YOUR LETTER OVER AGAIN SO THAT IF THERE IS SOMETHING TO COMMENT ON I WON'T FORGET IT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection by artists who have been to our house for dinner with wives who are not artists themselves.

**We know that the world is flat, dull, boring, banal, repetitive and endless but we also know it is stimulating, exciting, mysterious, wild, beautiful and renewing, and you can never be sure which is which. I work in the aera of the which is which. Is it Art or is it Memorex? 1985**

HAVE SMALL MEN NOISES AND SOME INSOMNIA FOR LISTEN. DO NOT OTHERS.

In 1919 he visited a Paris in the full bloom of Dada as a hero of the movement.

I SUPPOSE WE WILL HEAR ALL ABOUT YOU WHEN JIM GETS HOME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists who now only do public works because they hate galleries.

**NOTES AND QUOTES FROM OTHER SOURCES** or how to think about my work in other people's words. 1986

SHE SAW THE FATED ONES FIRST. INKED ON IN THE RUSH OF SPIRIT THAT WAS WORLD WAR II. AND NOW SIDE BY SIDE, ON THE ARMS OF THE YOUNG MEN, WERE THE FRESH TATTOOS. INKED ON NOW AS SIGNS OF REJECTION AND DEFIANCE TO THOSE PRINCIPALS SEEN FLOATING ON THE CHESTS AND FOREARMS OF THEIR BOSSES. (CONT.)

After contributing his "readymade aided" Mona Lisa, for the cover of Picabia's 391 magazine, he returned to New York without taking part in the organized Dada activities; it seemed to only enhance his prestige.

I GUESS MOST OF MY ACTIVITIES ARE OVER NOW...

Honey, I rearrranged the collection using artists who are also critics and who have moved from N.Y.C. to L.A. (and vice versa).

"...not interested in unique objects"

LOOK FOR PERVERSITIES BUT ANARCHY FOR MEN SETTLE SOME THEIR. NOT DO OTHERS.

But this time he had abandoned painting on canbas and had begun piecing together, little by little, "The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even", or as it sometimes is called, "The Big Glass".

I THINK THAT MARTHA AND I WILL GO SHOPPING TOMORROW AS I HAVE TO BUY MEREDITH A WEDDING PRESENT AND MARTHA NEEDS SOME PLAY CLOTHES, JEANS, SHORTS, ETC.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with second-generation artists from all periods and styles.

**"(He) sought to open art to commonplace experience and to acknowledge the influence of the mass media".**

SOME MEN HESITATE UNTIL THEIR EARLY THIRTIES. OTHERS DO NOT.

He also decided to adopt a female alter ego, Rrose Sélavy (a pun on c'est la vie), who signed such readymades as "Fresh Widow", a carpenter's model French window with black leather covered panes.

MENTIONING FRED MADE ME THINK OF YOUR REMARKS ABOUT FELLOWS DODGING THE DRAFT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only artists with hyphenated names.

**"...pursues no single formal idea, his subject matter is equally diverse".**

ROSES IN SOME QUIET, ORCHIDS MEN OR GROW ROOMS HOT. DO NOT OTHERS.

After working on it for eight years—never more than a few hours at a time, he stopped in 1923 because "the whole thing no longer interested me".

THE LOCUSTS HAVE BEEN TERRIFIC. GUESS WE TOLD YOU THEY DESCENDED UPON US, DIDN'T WE? THE NOISE ABOUT DRIVES YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND. THEY EVEN LIGHT ON YOU IF YOU ARE OUTSIDE WHERE THEY ARE THICK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists who aren't going to go anywhere but that we like anyway.

**"This is a collection sifted through my eccentricity and therefore, hopefully, bizarre as to individual pieces and even more bizarre in its totality". Sam Wagstaff on his silver collection. 1986.**

SOME MEN BELIEVE THEY ARE DIFFERENT THAN OTHER MEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

That year also marked his departure from the formal practice of art. Commercialism and the acceptance of art by the middle class, he said later, had been factors in his withdrawal.

YOU KNOW MARTHA WHEN IT COMES TO BUGS OF ANY KIND.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only artists who have been in at least 5 international shows in the last 5 years.

**"...installed together, individual works function as the elements of a complex lexicon that are reassembled in changing combinations".**

FISH SOME SEE MEN FLYING. NOT OTHERS DO.

In the years that followed, he devoted a great deal of his time to playing chess, a game that he had enjoyed since his youth.

SHE WAS MOWING THE LAWN YESTERDAY AND WHEN SHE GOT NEAR TO THE TREES I HAD TO TAKE OVER. ONE WOULD COME BUZZING AROUND HER AND SHE'D LET GO OF THE MOWER TO GET OUT OF ITS WAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only artists who have been in rehab.

**"...(he) addresses the relationship between public and private experience... history and memory, life and death, love and loss".**

SOME MEN SEE FLYING FISH. OTHERS DO NOT.

Although not of master caliber, he was considered by experts a good match, who would rather risk loss by playing an unusual game than win conventionally.

IT'S A WONDER SHE DIDN'T CUT DOWN MY ROSES. ONE TIME SHE WAS HEADED RIGHT FOR THEM WHEN SHE LET GO! SHE'D LET OUT A SCREECH AND I'D SEE THE MOWER TAKE OFF ON ITS OWN NO MATTER WHAT WAS IN ITS WAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show the artists who know movie stars & rock stars that collect their work too.

**"...investing the abstract and the mundane with emotional content, his materials are vehicles for meaning".**

SOME MEN SEEK DISCIPLES. OTHERS DO NOT.

During the nineteen thirties and forties Duchamp's forays into public activity were infrequent. A shadowy presence on the international art scene, he advised dealers and collectors on purchases.

THE MAPLE TREES AND THE APPLE TREES SEEM TO BE THE ONES THAT THEY ARE QUITE FOND OF AND THEY JUST SWARM AROUND THEM. I HOPE THEY DON'T RUIN THE APPLES AS THERE IS A GOOD CROP THIS YEAR...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearrranged the collection showing artists who don't know Leo Castelli personally.

**To make Art that doesn't look like Art but more like little odd pieces of real life. TO DEFAMILIARIZE THE FAMILIAR AS ONLY A MASTER OF THE FAMILIAR CAN.**

SOME MEN ARE SAID TO BE DECENT. OTHERS ARE NOT.

The rise of Pop Art in the early sixties stirred a renewal of interest in Duchamp's work.

JAN. 2, 1963
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only works we bought at benefit auctions.

**The work has the ephemeral quality of a thought in passing, a fragment or part of something larger which can't be seen as a whole. Things in the act of disappearing or a translation of one thing to another.**

SOME MEN STUFF ANIMALS AND DRINK TO MUCH. OTHERS DO NOT.

However, Pop Art's celebration of the Coke bottle, the Campbell's soup can and other mundane objects, unlike its predecessors, were to be accepted as genuine artistic statements. In 1962 he wrote a letter to Hans Richter, another founder of Dada:

WE SURE ENJOYED YOUR NICE, LONG LETTER AND ESPECIALLY THE ENCLOSED PICTURES...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show artists who were popular in the 80's but aren't now and won't be later.

**I like the surface of life—the trivial details that make up most of our time and in some ways define it.**

SOME MEN LIKE FINE FRENCH FURNITURE. OTHERS DO NOT.

"When I discovered readymades, I thought to discourage esthetics. In Neo-Dada they have taken my readymades and found esthetic beauty in them.

WE ALL HAD DINNER AT THE NEW RESTAURANT NEXT TO THE MOTOR HOTEL YESTERDAY. IT WAS VERY GOOD AND NOT TO EXPENSIVE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists we have met more than once but have not had over to dinner.

**I like to use forms that are laying around empty. Forms that are for purposes other than art.**

SOME MEN ARE STIGMATICS, BLEEDING ON FRIDAYS. OTHERS ARE NOT.

I threw the Bottle-Rack and the Urinal into their faces as a challenge and now they admire them for their esthetic beauty."

I'M GLAD YOUR CHRISTMAS TURNED OUT SO NICELY. DID YOU EAT AT HOME?...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only the works which were given or traded to us and works which we paid the most for.

**What kind of basic formal structure can I devise in order to simply leave things alone?**

SOME MEN STEP OUT OF THE WAY OF TRAINS. OTHERS DO NOT.

Duchamp accepted his new acclaim, however. Museums, the august institutions he had long ago mocked, paid him tribute.

YOU ASKED A FEW QUESTIONS YOURSELF, SO I WILL ANSWER THE ONES I THINK OF RIGHT NOW.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with all the works which we usually keep in the drawers.

I have used many unseen things. Things found in the private world of the individual and in the unnoticed worlds of the public.

SOME MEN TALK LIKE BERTRAND RUSSELL. OTHERS DO NOT.

In 1963 he was given his first big retrospective, at the Pasadena Art Museum. Another large Duchamp survey was mounted in 1966 by the Tate Gallery in London.

DAD BROKE HIS RIB BENDING OVER THE BACK OF THE DAVENPORT TRYING TO PUT A COASTER UNDER THE BACK LEG, YOU KNOW THOSE THINGS YOU PUT DOWN TO KEEP IT FROM MAKING HOLES IN THE RUG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to look like the pattern on our old quilt.

**By using the posters as backgrounds I'm able to incorporate text in a real way. By using each wall as a different text I can have a dialogue with or without objects.**

SOME MEN ARE MOVED TO TEARS BY THE FRUSTRATIONS OF ANIMALS. OTHERS ARE NOT.

Duchamp, who became a U.S. citizen in 1955, lived comfortably in a brownstone on 10th Street off Fifth Avenue with his wife, the former Alexina (Teeny) Sattler, whom he married in 1954.

HE WAS TRYING TO LIFT UP ON THE ONE SECTION WHILE LEANING OVER THE BACK OF THE OTHER. HE FELT SOMETHING GIVE 'WAY AND IT HURT SO BADLY HE ALMOST GOT SICK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I was fed up with our boring life.

**Like language environments. Like being on the street. Written, heard, thought, said, seen, assaultive, quiet, vulgar, poetic, meaningful, meaningless, visual, verbal.**

SOME MEN ARE CAPABLE OF BECOMING GREAT. OTHERS ARE NOT.

On the walls of their living room, paintings by Matisse, Miro and others "retinals", as he called them, suggested that he would not have to issue a check on the "Teeth's Loan and Trust Co., Consolidated" to pay a $115 dental bill, as he did in 1919.

WHEN HE WENT TO THE DOCTOR HE SAID THAT YOU COULDN'T TELL FOR SURE IF IT WAS BROKEN WITHOUT AN X-RAY BUT THAT IT PROBABLY WAS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to remember why we wanted to have one in the first place.

**Nasty feeling and sounding and looking phrases. Common and vulgar with weighty ideas.**

SOME MEN ARE DEEPLY AND NATURALLY MYSTERIOUS. OTHERS ARE NOT.

His dentist, in true Dada spirit, accepted the check and later sold it back to him for more than the amount owed.

ANYWAY, THEY DON'T DO ANYTHING FOR YOU ANYWAY EXCEPT TO TELL YOU TO BE CAREFUL AND NOT PLAY ANY BASEBALL OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that it only shows representations of women at home or in the landscape.

**I have always liked things that at first you don't notice, but when you do, you begin to understand their place, significance and meaning in relationship to what you do see. Then for a moment you can see everything at once.**

SOME MEN WORSHIP THE IMAGE OF ONE WOMAN. OTHERS DO NOT.

In recent years Duchamp was a familiar figure on Madison Avenue, visiting galleries and keeping up a lively commentary on the state of art.

WHEN IT CAME TO SHOVELING SNOW, IT WAS TOO MUCH EXERTION, AND MADE IT HURT. HOWEVER, DAD WENT AHEAD AND DID SOME ANYWAY, BUT NOT LIKE HE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE IF HE HADN'T BEEN AFRAID IT WOULD DAMAGE HIS RIB.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and put all artists who belong in the bedroom into the living room and all artists from the bathroom are now in the bedroom. Kitchen artists are removed.

**The work must elicit some kind of skepticism from the viewer as to what he is looking at.**

SOME MEN KILL OTHER MEN IN PRIVATE ROOMS. OTHERS DO NOT.

He contributed his longevity to "not much liquor but all the women you want", and, after smoking a pipe for many years, turned to inexpensive Philippine cigars.

WE STILL HAVEN'T SEEN OUR DRIVEWAY FOR OVER A MONTH, IT STAYS SO COLD, THE SNOW DOESN'T MELT, AND THEN WE GET MORE SNOW ON TOP OF WHAT WE HAVE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection removing all artists with fuck-off beards. Also no bald artists. Our collection looks clean now.

**Listmaking. Functioning as a librarian sorting and collecting information. As a poet constructing metaphors through proximity, juxtaposition and intersection. Suggesting a context for meaning.**

SOME MEN BELIEVE THAT THE HOLY TRINITY SHOULD ALLOW THE INCLUSION OF MARY. OTHERS DO NOT.

He also gave up playing chess.

DAD SAYS THIS IS THE WORST WINTER TO DRIVE IN ALL THE YEARS HE HAS LIVED HERE. HAVE A FEW MORE LIKE THIS AND WE'LL BE OUT TO LIVE WITH YOU!

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only works I bought to impress you.

I like the way a calendar plays on my consciousness as a date and an image come together in the breath of a glance. Slyly registering their connection in a world we can only approximate in art.

SOME MEN HAVE RACING DAYS. OTHERS DO NOT.

"I don't play very much any more", he said last year. "I have a hard time winning, even from the wood pushers as we call them. Once or twice a year I go to the Marshall Chess Club across the street, but that's all.

I HOPE YOUR BIRTHDAY PACKAGE ARRIVES ON TIME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and see what we were after when we bought these damn things in the first place.

**All I can do is to play down the commodity aspect with language and thought. A fortune can be had from gambling.**

SOME MEN GROW ORCHIDS IN HOT, QUIET ROOMS. OTHERS DO NOT.

You can forget about something you love very much. It's a Zen concept. When I put my "Nude" under my arm and went home, it was my first Zen experience. Don't cry."

I HAVE TO STOP AND GET SUPPER NOW... MAYBE WILL WRITE A LITTLE MORE LATER.
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it looked like a mess we had no control over.

**When I come back to meet myself (in the objects) I will remember... It was not this so what was it? Buried treasure.**

SOME MEN INHERIT ONLY THEIR NAMES AND POSITIONS. OTHERS DO NOT.

"It was in 1910, on the occasion of an exhibition at the Hedelberg Gallery that Picabia's friend Dumont introduced us to Marcel Duchamp,

JAN. ?, 1963
TUESDAY, 5:30 P.M.
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I lost my job today and now we will never be able to buy any more things.

**Books educate, news passes time.**

SOME MEN SEE VIOLENCE FIRST. OTHERS DO NOT.

then a very young man, but one whose ideas far surpassed the works he had so far accomplished, which were still subject to Cézannian and Cubist influence,

I HOPE BY THIS TIME...
I AM WONDERING...
THE COOKIES WERE FROM PAPA AND ALLA...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show what would happen if we split up. Yours, mine and the IRS.

**NOTES FALL/WINTER 1990-1992**
**What is the order and what is the method?**

SISTE VIATOR (STOP TRAVELER) 1993

Though very much detached from the conventions of his epoch, he had not yet found his mode of expression, and this gave him a kind of disgust with work and an ineptitude for like.

...EDNA POPOWSKI CALLED ME LAST WEEK TO TELL ME THAT HOWARD AND JUDY RAN AWAY AND GOT MARRIED THE DAY THEY WENT BACK TO SCHOOL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to "liberate" it from our curator's intent. Too much theory. I hate it.

**"It seems that this is a difficulty pertaining to our times: there is as yet only one possible choice, and this choice can bear only on two equally extreme methods: either to posit a reality which is entirely permeable to history, and ideologies;**

I WALK BETWEEN THE
STONES, AND THE VOICES CALL OUT
THEIR NAMES. I KNOW THEM.
UNKNOWN HAIKU

Under an appearance of almost romantic timidity, he possessed an exacting dialectical mind in love with philosophical speculations and absolute conclusions.

SHE WAS PRETTY UPSET ABOUT IT AND SAID SHE TOLD HIM SHE HOPED HE WASN'T PLANNING ON THEM SUPPORTING HIM! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY EXPECT TO LIVE ON AS THEY ARE BOTH IN SCHOOL. PRETTY STUPID, SEEMS TO ME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the colors of the books in the room. One work per book.

**or, conversely, to posit a reality which is ultimately impenetrable, irreducible, and, in this case, poetize.**

"BUT MONUMENTS THEMSELVES MEMORIALS NEED"
GEORGE CRABBE

It has always seemed to me that the meeting of those two exceptional personalities, Picabia and Duchamp, was of capital importance for them both.

TONIGHT WE ARE INVITED DOWN TO DOROTHY'S FOR SUPPER TO CELEBRATE PAPA'S BIRTHDAY, 83 YEARS OLD. THINK YOU WILL LAST THAT LONG?

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to how a work "smells", given its image. The smells are then arranged according to taste. That's where I stopped.

**In a word, I do not yet see a synthesis between ideology and poetry (by poetry I understand, in a general way, the search for the inalienable meaning of things)" Roland Barthes**

"ALL THINGS THAT WE ORDAINED FESTIVAL,
TURN FROM THEIR OFFICE TO BLACK FUNERAL;

In that period Picabia led a rather sumptuous, extravagant life, while Duchamp enclosed himself in the solitude of his studio at Neuilly,

HE SURE GETS AROUND O.K. THEY ARE PLANNING ON GOING TO FLORIDA AROUND THE FIRST OF FEB. GUESS IF YOU WERE EXPECTED THEY WOULD WAIT A FEW DAYS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to conversations we had with the artist of each work. If we had no conversation the work stays in storage.

**"All process moves forward and also rounds back". Wordsworth's Prelude from Natural Supernaturalism.**

OUR INSTRUMENTS TO MELANCHOLY BELLS,
OUR WEDDING CHEER TO SAD BURIAL FEAST,

keeping in touch with only a few friends, among whom we were numbered.

I KNOW DAD WILL WANT TO WRITE SOMETHING SO WILL LEAVE THE REST FOR HIM...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and make a correlation between the physical size of the artist and the piece we have. Short artist/small work etc.

**A fringe character even when at the center of the frame. A watcher/reader who stands at the crossroads of other discourses, ideas, cultures, and patterns."Both in and out of the game and watching and wondering at it". W. Whitman**

OUR SOLEMN HYMNS TO SULLEN DIRGES CHANGE,
OUR BRIDAL FLOWERS SERVE FOR A BURIED CORPSE,

Sometimes he "took a trip" to his room and banished for two weeks from the circle of his friends: this was a time of escape into himself,

JAN. 25, 1963
THURSDAY
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show who knows who. Artists who know each other; artists who know our curator; artists who know artists from other generations and countries; artists who know only museum directors, etc.

**not either/or but and**
**All forms simultaneously and the collision of all things**

AND ALL THINGS CHANGE THEM TO THE CONTRARY"
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: ROMEO & JULIET

in the course of which the "sad young man in a train" was transmuted into a captivating impressive incarnation of Lucifer.

I'LL START THIS LETTER BUT I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY AS WE HAVE BEEN EXPECTING A LETTER FROM YOU ALL WEEK. WE PARTICULARLY ARE WONDERING WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE COMING NEXT WEEK BUT I GUESS FROM WHAT YOU WROTE BILL, THAT YOU WILL BE HERE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection generationally. Oldest artists in the main room down to baby artists in the kid's room.

**FLOPS; Ishtar, Hudson Hawk, Newsies, Radio Flyer, Heavens' Gate, Boomerang, Howard the Duck, Bonfire of the Vanities, Billy Bathgate, A wall of TV's, Like a Pike, all playing Flops.**

"IN THE AFTERNOON OF TIME
A STRENUOUS FAMILY DUSTED FROM ITS HANDS

The very different temperaments and conceptions of the two men led them to the same extreme point of logical decomposition, to the same immediate routine logic of the senses.

IF YOU HAVE HEARD ANY WEATHER REPORTS OF WEATHER IN OHIO LATELY, I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU WILL WANT TO COME OR NOT. IT WAS TWENTY DEGREES BELOW ZERO THIS MORNING AND ALTHO' THE SUN SHONE BRIGHTLY ALL DAY IT NEVER DID GET HIGHER THAN 2 BELOW!

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only works of multiple colors. Then I did it again using all the colors that were missing from the first hanging. The second is the best. Less harsh.

**Harold 'Herk' Harvey; Filmed "Carnival of Souls". Harold A. 'Herk' Harvey, 71, industrial filmmaker best known for his cult horror feature "Carnival of Souls."**

THE SAND OF GRANITE, AND BEHOLDING FAR
ALONG THE SOUNDING COAST ITS PYRAMIDS

They were as opposed in their reactions as in their methods; but their roads ran parallel, magnetized by the same pole.

IT BROKE ALL KNOWN RECORDS FOR THIS DATE. IN 1873 THEY HAD 17 BELOW WHICH WAS THE CLOSEST. WE HAD THE DOUBTFUL HONOR OF BEING THE COLDEST SPOT IN THE NATION.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to a color code I saw in my dream. The main color of each work symbolizes how I feel about the artist.

**A native of Colorado, Harvey became attached to Lawrence, Kansas when he was stationed there during World War II. He later majored in theater at the University of Kansas and taught there briefly before joining Lawrence-based Centron Films.**

AND TALL MEMORIALS CATCH THE DYING SUN,
SMILED WITH CONTENT, AND TO THIS CHILDISH TASK
AROUND THE FIRE ADDRESSED ITS EVENING HOURS"
R.L. STEVENSON UNDERWOODS

Picabia exceeded the limits of his creative field by an exasperation of his lyric vein, always under pressure;

IT HAS BEEN THE WORST WINTER THAT ANY OF US CAN REMEMBER. A MAN FROM THE ALMANAC WHO HAD PREDICTED THIS WAS ON TV TODAY. HE WAS ASKED WHAT NEXT WINTER WOULD BE LIKE AND HE SAID, JUST THE SAME AND POSSIBLY WORSE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection so it is a collection of restaurants that artists have taken us to. Only the best restaurants and only the best artists.

**He made about 400 industrial and educational films during his long career, but his only feature film was the ghoulish "Carnival of Souls" in 1962.**

"THE BATTLE OF OUR LIFE IS BRIEF,
THE ALARM, —THE STRUGGLE, —THE RELIEF,
THEN SLEEP WE SIDE BY SIDE"
LONGFELLOW

he abandoned himself to chance and to his exceptional imaginative faculties. Duchamp on the contrary, by a discipline that was almost Jansenist and mystical,

MAYBE WE WILL BE IN CALIFORNIA SOONER THAN YOU THINK. I KNOW DAD HAS HATED THE DRIVING THIS WINTER AND COMES HOME EXHAUSTED FROM THE TRAFFIC JAMS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we can get anything we want–almost–I can get any piece by any comtemporary artist I choose. There is always something new, somebody new, a never-ending supply of art.

**An unscrupulous distributor put the motion picture into a few theaters and made illegal copies, which gave the low-budget film an unprofitable but enduring popularity on late night television and Halloween shows for decades.**

"THERE ARE FEW DIE WELL THAT DIE IN A BATTLE"
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: HENRY V

suppressed every impulse, every desire to create, suppressed all joy in creating and to avert the danger of a routine reminiscence or reflex, forced himself to a rule of conduct directly counter to the natural.

THE TEMPERATURE BEING WHAT IT WAS, I THINK IF IT HADN'T BEEN THE LAST DAY OF EXAMS, I WOULD HAVE TOLD MARTHA TO STAY HOME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection just to show off. To surround myself with all these fantastic things and to show all the stuff we have collected in five short years. And to make it feel like "a nest I can lay eggs in!".

**In 1990, the movie enjoyed a renewed following when it played several film festivals and respected houses.**

"PRAISES ON TOMBS ARE TRIFLES SPENT,
A MAN'S GOOD NAME IS HIS BEST MONUMENT"
ALEXANDER POPE

But they emulated one another in their extraordinary adherence to paradoxical, destructive principles,

I TALKED TO MRS. RICHMONT TODAY...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to combine pieces from your father's collection and ours. Now its really museum quality.

**"Carnival" at long last earned favorable reviews in such magazines as The Times and the New Yorker magazine, and was made available to consumers on a legal commercial videotape. On Wednesday in Lawrence, Kansas.**

WE MUST ALL DIE
MUST WE DIE ALL
ALL DIE WE MUST
DIE ALL MUST WE

in their blasphemies and inhumanities which were directed not only against the old myths of art, but against all the foundations of life in general.

GUESS I TOLD YOU THAT GRANDMA IS ON CRUTCHES AND HER LEG DOESN'T SEEM TO GET ANY BETTER. SHE MIGHT GO INTO THE HOSPITAL FOR SOME THERAPY FOR IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to parade our influence as collectors.

**"With great fanaticism, we catalogue the shreds of information, because our view of the whole has altogether vanished..." Witte de With, Lectures 1992**

DEATH IS A DEBT
TO NATURE DUE
WHICH I HAVE PAID
AND SO MUST YOU.

Guillaume Apollinaire often took part in these forays of demoralization, which were also forays of witticism and clowning.

UNCLE LESTER DOESN'T GET BETTER, EITHER. SOME TIMES THEY DON'T THINK HE WILL LIVE THROUGH THE NIGHT, THEN THE NEXT DAY HE WILL BE A LOT BETTER. I DON'T THINK THEY KNOW WHAT IS WRONG WITH HIM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection as a deliberate homage to ourselves.

**ONCE UPON A TIME WHEN BOOKS WERE FAMOUS**

IN THE TIME OF MY BOYHOOD, I HAD A STRANGE FEELING,
THAT I WAS TO DIE ERE THE NOON OF MY DAY;
NOT QUIETLY INTO THE SILENT GRAVE STEALING;
BUT TORN LIKE A BLASTED OAK, SUDDENLY AWAY.

Better than by any rational method, they thus pursued the disintegration of the concept of art,

WE ARE SUPPOSED TO GO TO PICK UP AUNT VIVIAN TOMORROW NIGHT. ELTON GOES MOST OF THE TIME BUT FRIDAY IS A BAD TIME FOR HIM TO GET AWAY EARLY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show the unconscious copying of our fellow collectors.

**He lived there in two rooms which he had covered from ceiling to floor with most strange and troubling designs that made certain distinguished critics repeat for the thousandth time: It is nothing but Literature! Giorgio De Chirico**

BLESSED ARE THE HOMESICK
FOR THEY SHALL GET HOME.

substituting a personal dynamism, individual forces of suggestion and projection, for the codified values of formal Beauty".

DID YOU KNOW MR. SLAGLE? HIS WIFE SINGS TENOR WITH DAD IN THE CHOIR. WELL, HE DROPPED OVER DEAD, YESTERDAY. WE HAVE TO GO TO THE FUNERAL HOME EITHER TONIGHT OR TOMORROW.
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to showcase the fortunate coincidences which brought all these pieces into our hands.

**"You make for one dim room without contour**
**And station yourself there, beyond the pale**
**Of cough or of gardenia, erect, pale.**
**What happened is becoming literature".**
**from For Proust by James Merrill**

HERE LIES INTERRED A BLOOMING YOUTH,
WHO LIVED IN LOVE AND DIED IN TRUTH.

"We had found Marcel Duchamp perfectly adapted to the violent rhythm of New York.

JANUARY 8, 2000
ROBERT MCG. THOMAS, 60, CHRONICLER OF UNSUNG LIVES
BY MICHAEL T. KAUFMAN

Honey, I rearranged the collection to persuade museum curators that our collection is not a "wilful pastiche!".

**William Saroyan "My job is writing but my real work is living".**

BEHOLD AND SEE AS YOU PASS BY,
AS YOU ARE NOW SO ONCE WAS I,

He was the hero of the artists and intellectuals and of the young ladies who frequented these circles.

ROBERT MCG. THOMAS JR., A REPORTER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES WHO EXTENDED THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE CONVENTIONAL OBITUARY FORM,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are not amateurs, and do not follow trends.

**"the questionable gap between the authors best and life as it is—this is what makes the whole interpretative attempt worth the while of both writer and reader..." intro to Jacques the Fatalist & His Master by Diderot**

AS I AM NOW SO YOU MUST BE;
PREPARE FOR DEATH AND FELLOW ME.

Leaving his almost monastic isolation, he flung himself into orgies of drunkenness and every other excess. But in a life of license as of asceticism,

SHAKING THE DUST FROM ONE OF THE MOST NEGLECTED AREAS OF DAILY JOURNALISM, DIED ON THURSDAY AT HIS FAMILY'S SUMMER HOME IN REHOBOTH BEACH, DEL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection alternating alphabetically between the first letter of the title of the piece and the artist's last name.

**Robbe-Grillet on Novels and Films: "Art evolves", Mr. Robbe-Grillet (pronounced rub-gree-YAY)[nytimes] wrote in For A New Novel. "But the novel, unlike music or the visual arts or cinema, has evolved very little since 19th-century realism".**

WE PART TO MEET AGAIN
WHAT A JOYFUL THOUGHT.

he preserved his consciousness of purpose: extravagant as his gestures sometimes seemed,

HE WAS 60 AND ALSO HAD A HOME IN MANHATTAN. THE CAUSE WAS ABDOMICAL CANCER, SAID HIS WIFE, JOAN.

Honey, I rearranged the collection alphabetically with all the "untitleds" in one room, the one-word-titles in the next, and all the rest in the basement.

**"Man, a stranger in the world, is a stranger to himself. Literature is not for entertainment. It is a quest".**

IF THERE IS A WORLD ABOVE, HE IS IN BLISS;
IF THERE IS NOT, HE MADE THE MOST OF THIS.

they were perfectly adequate to his experimental study of a personality disengaged from the normal contingencies of human life.

MR. THOMAS BEGAN WRITING OBITUARIES FULL-TIME IN 1995 AFTER SERVING AS A POLICE REPORTER, A REWRITE MAN, A SOCIETY NEWS REPORTER AND A SPORTS WRITER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only the "fur-lined teacup" piece of each artist, this makes our collection very small!

**"I think it was Roland Barthes who said "The great work is not one that imposes the same meaning on numerous observers, but rather one who develops numerous meanings in one observer".**

I CAME IN THIS MORNING—IT WAS SPRING AND I SMILED,
I WALKED OUT AT NOON—IT WAS SUMMER AND I WAS GLAD,
I SAT DOWN AT EVENING—IT WAS AUTUMN AND I WAS SAD,
I LAID DOWN AT NIGHT—IT WAS WINTER AND I SLEPT.

He later recognized, in an interview with James Johnson Sweeney, that in this fabrication of his personality he was very much influenced by the manner of Jacques Vache, whom he had met through Apollinaire.

HE DEVELOPED A FRESH APPROACH TO THE GENRE, LOOKING FOR TELLING DETAILS TO ILLUMINATE LIVES THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED OR UNDERREPORTED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection strictly chronologically according to date of piece. Beginning with the earliest one, I took one work from that year, two works from the next, three from the next, etc.; up until 1968, then there is too many.

**"We must not confuse the books that we read while traveling with those that make us travel". Breton**

READER, I'VE LEFT THIS WORLD, IN WHICH I HAD A WORLD TO DO:
SWEATING AND FRETTING TO GET RICH,
JUST SUCH A FOOL AS YOU.

In art he was interested only in finding new formulas with which to assault the tradition of the picture and of painting.

MR. THOMAS SAW HIMSELF AS THE SYMPATHETIC STRANGER AT THE WAKE LISTENING TO FRIENDS AND SURVIVORS OF THE DECEASED,

Honey, I rearranged the collection putting up only pieces I think about when I'm not at home. The rest goes to storage.

**"There is no such thing as was. To me no man is himself, he is the sum of his past. There is no such thing really as was, because the past is. It is part of every man, every woman, and every moment.**

JUST A SHORT WHILE.

despite the pitiless pessimism of his mind, he was personally delightful with his gay ironies. The attitude of abdicating everything,

ALERT FOR THE MOMENT WHEN ONE OF THEM WOULD TELL A MEMORABLE TALE THAT COULD NEVER HAVE MADE ITS WAY INTO WHO'S WHO OR A RESUME BUT THAT JUST HAPPENED TO DEFINE A LIFE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to reflect how I feel about you. We did buy everything together.

**And so a man, a character in a story at any moment in action, is not just himself as he is then, he is all that made him; and the long sentence is an attempt to get his past and possibly his future into the instant in which he does something". W. Faulkner**

GONE HOME.

even himself, which he charmingly displayed between two drinks, his elaborate puns, his contempt for all values, even the sentimental,

IN 1995, WHEN THE TIMES PROPOSED HIM FOR A PULITZER PRIZE IN THE CATEGORY OF SPOT NEWS, THE NOMINATION BEGAN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection using 1965 as the dividing line. All works before in both main rooms, all the works after back in storage.

**"Every life is many days, day after day. We walk through ourselves, meeting robbers, ghosts, giants, old men, young men, wives, widows, brothers-in-love. But always meeting ourselves". James Joyce**

INVISIBLE, AS MUSIC, BUT POSITIVE, AS SOUND.

were not the least reason for the curiosity he aroused, and the attraction he exerted on men and women alike. Utterly logical, he soon declared his intention of renouncing all artistic production.

"EVERY WEEK READERS WRITE TO THE NEW YORK TIMES TO SAY THEY WERE MOVED TO TEARS OR LAUGHTER BY AN OBITUARY OF SOMEONE THEY HADN'T KNOWN UNTIL THAT MORNING'S PAPER...

Honey, I rearranged the collection dividing it between European artists after 1968 and Americans before.

**"...nothing is more difficult to discover than a simple fact..." Mailer in Deer Park**

I HAVE DONE MY WORK.

And if he continued to busy himself with his great work in glass, "The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even",

THE GALLERY OF PORTRAITS THAT MR. THOMAS COMPILED COVERED AN IMPRESSIVE RANGE. AMONG THEM WERE

Honey, I rearranged the collection with all artists born in the 40's in one room and all artists born in the 70's in the other. The rest is stacked in the bedroom.

**WHEN IN DOUBT GO TO THE MOVIES** Notes 1986

LEAD ME TO THE ROCK THAT IS HIGHER THAN I.

to which for two years he had been devoting such meticulous care, it was because it had been purchased prior to completion.

HOWARD C. FOX, "THE CHICAGO CLOTHIER AND SOMETIME BIG-BAND TRUMPETER WHO CLAIMED CREDIT FOR CREATING AND NAMING THE ZOOT SUIT WITH THE REET PLEAT,

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it was just some of this and some of that. The question now is: can one piece be a collection?

**"Forms of cultural expression tend to reveal unwanted information about the society that wishes to perceive them as peripheral".**

DIED AWAY FROM HOME AND JESUS WENT WITH HIM.

He was almost happy when it cracked in mobing.

THE REAVE SLEEVE, THE RIPE STRIPE, THE STUFF CUFF AND THE DRAPE SHAPE THAT WAS THE STAGE RAGE DURING THE BOOGIE-WOOGIE RHYME TIME OF THE EARLY 1940'S...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to what your father would approve of. He is a true connoisseur. Do we have an "A" piece yet?

**The pure pleasure of the overlooked and the under-appreciated.**

NOT DEAD. NOT SLEEPING. NOT EVEN GONE.
BUT PRESENT STILL.

As to painting, he kept his word, he never again touched a brush. But at long intervals he did work on certain strange objects or machines,

THERE WAS ROSE HAMBURGER, A 105 YEAR OLD RACING HANDICAPPER; MARION TINSLEY, A CHECKER CHAMPION UNBEATEN BY MAN OR MACHINE, AND A VIVACIOUS WOMAN WHO STARTED OUT AS A SHOWGIRL AND ENDED UP A PRINCESS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only work we bought in instalments.

**"The present is only ever understandable through the past, with which it forms a living continuity; and the past is always grasped from our own partial viewpoint within the present". Terry Eagleton**

FELL ASLEEP IN THE PEACEFUL POSSESSION OF A REASONABLE HOPE.

strictly useless and anti-esthetic, which one of his historians very aptly named "wolf traps" (he should have added: "for the mind").

MR. THOMAS, A TALL MAN WITH WAVY HAIR WHO SPOKE IN A VOICE SOFT WITH TRACES OF HIS NATIVE TENNESSEE, WAS AN EXTREMELY GREGARIOUS AND SOCIAL MAN.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with all the works that are now too expensive to get any more. Aren't we lucky? Or what?

**"Every image of the past that is not recognized by the present as one of its own concerns threatens to disappear irretrievably".**

I SHALL PASS THROUGH THIS WORLD BUT ONCE. IF, THEREFORE, THERE BE ANY KINDNESS I CAN SHOW, OR ANY GOOD THING I CAN DO,

He drugged himself on chess, playing night and day like a professional.

LAST WEEK HE OFFICIATED AT THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY HE FIRST STARTED GIVING AT THE FAMILY HOME IN SHELBYVILLE 32 YEARS AGO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to our favorite restaurants. Each piece representing a great meal we had after we found a great piece.

**Like on a VCR - Fast Forward and Reverse are side by side.**

LET ME DO IT NOW;
LET ME NOT DEFER IT NOR NEGLECT IT, FOR
I SHALL NOT PASS THIS WAY AGAIN.

And when asked to participate in artistic events, he consented only for the sake of the scandal that might be provoked.

ABOUT 5 PERCENT OF THE TOWN'S RESIDENTS ATTENDED, AND MR. THOMAS, WEARING A BLUE SILK SHIRT WITH EMBROIDERED SUN AND MOON THAT HE BOUGHT FOR THE OCCASION,

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the geographical areas and the seasons where we found our best pieces, i.e. winter pieces in the Catskills, and summer pieces in the Hamptons.

**We are in a time of fake art. Art masquerading as advertising design.**

I HAVE A BOOK I WANT YOU TO READ.

At the New York Independents exhibition, for example, he exhibited a urinal entitled Fountain, which was of course disqualified.

CHEERED HIS GUESTS AND THE NEW CENTURY. AS IN PAST YEARS, HE EXPRESSED HOPES THAT THE FIREWORKS HE HAD ORDERED WOULD NOT SET FIRE TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ACROSS THE ROAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the names of the dealers we got them from instead of the artists.

**More of What God and I Think About: A daily comic strip titled The Big Bang Theory. Every day another element gets added and over the course of the strip the panels get so full that it eventually explodes into a color Sunday supplement.**

STRANGER: —FAREWELL

Yet a kind of occult prescience of men and things gave him an extraordinary influence on all the innovating artists of his generation, particularly the Surrealists, for whom he became a kind of symbol.

HE WAS FOND OF WRITING ABOUT PEOPLE WHO BECAME LEGENDARY AS A RESULT OF A SINGLE EXPLOIT, LIKE DOUGLAS CORRIGAN,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show a progression from a "lover of animals into a passionate and uncontrollable collector of all kinds of art". Guess who?

**NOTES 1988**

WARM SUMMER SUN, SHINE KINDLY HERE,
WARM SOUTHERN WIND, BLOW SOFTLY HERE,
GREEN SOD ABOVE, LIE LIGHT,
GOOD NIGHT, DEAR HEART,
GOOD NIGHT, GOOD NIGHT.

Although he has to his credit a very limited number of painted works or invented objects,

WHO TOOK OFF FROM NEW YORK IN A TINY OVERLOADED PLANE BOUND FOR CALIFORNIA (HE SAID) IN 1938 AND LANDED IN DUBLIN SOME 28 HOURS LATER...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to focus on the idea of the collection. Sort of what do collectors do anyway?

**"For Art comes to you proposing frankly to give nothing but the highest quality to your moments as they pass, and simply for those moments sake". Walter Pater**

THE DEAD SHALL BE RAISED INCORRUPTIBLE AND WE SHALL ALL BE CHANGED.

his contribution is considerable, and because of his sure judgment, he later came to be consulted as an authority, even in official circles".

IN A SIMILAR VEIN, HE WROTE OF JOHNNY SYLVESTER, WHO DIED IN 1990, 64 YEARS AFTER HE CAME TO FAME AS A BEDRIDDEN BOY WHO INSPIRED BABE RUTH...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show its missing parts. To show what more we have to get in order to say we have all we want.

**Modernism in all forms expects things to be just one way, so we react to this with falseness, with irony, simulation, etc. Where can you go for authentic feelings? How do you gain authenticy with an artform which speaks of inauthenticity?**

COLBY POSTERS 1983-1995 (?)

Gabrielle Buffet-Picabia 1949.
Translated from the French by Ralph Manheim.

THERE WAS SOMETHING MYTHIC, TOO, ABOUT SYLVIA WEINBERGER, MR. THOMAS WROTE, "WHO USED A SPRINKLING OF MATZOH MEAL, A PINCH OF SALT AND A DOLLOP OF SCHMALTZMANSHIP TO TURN CHOPPED LIVER INTO A COMMERCIAL SUCCESS".

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind you of: "what is the connection between the five fingers of my hand and the collection?"

**The self remains formed in the past... "The search can never succeed fully since it relates to a situation that belongs irrevocably to the past".**

IT'S NOT ART (THAT COUNTS NOW)

Marcel Duchamp
By André Breton.
Translated from The French by Ralph Manheim.

ROBERT MCGILL THOMAS JR. WAS BORN AND GREW UP IN SHELBYVILLE, TENN. HE SPENT HIS 15TH YEAR CHEERING FOR A DISTANT RELATIVE, SENATOR ESTES KEFAUVER, AS KEFAUVER RAN FOR VICE-PRESIDENT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only the most expensive pieces.

**The Language of Equivalence from an article by Jeremy Gilbert-Rolfe. "Any entity which is not split or constituted by an opposition is a mere appearence. Anything which is not determined by its contrary is vague, particular, individual, tragic, etc. By the language of equivalence you make a real thing and not a picture of it".**

ARE YOU CRYING?

From Littérature, October 1922

THREE YEARS LATER MR. THOMAS WENT TO YALE... AND FLUNKED OUT AS A RESULT OF A DECISION, HE SAID, "TO MAJOR IN NEW YORK, RATHER THAN ANYTHING ACADEMIC".

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show which pieces were the most difficult to get.

**Coleridge believed that truth lies in a union of opposites. He came close to the facts of Romantic practice when he claimed that the art of composing poetry involves the psychological contraries "of passion and of will, of spontaneous impulse and of voluntary purpose".**

WHAT SHOULD I DO?*

"It is by rallying around this name, a veritable oasis for those who are still Seeking,

AFTER JOINING THE TIMES AS A COPY BOY IN 1959, MR. THOMAS SPENT THE NEXT FOUR DECADES IN A VARIETY OF REPORTING ASSIGNMENTS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with expensive on the left, cheap on the right.

**The readymade is the contradiction of the art object.**

NOSTALGIA 24 HOURS A DAY

that we might most acutely carry on the struggle to liberate the modern consciousness from that terrible fixation mania which we never cease to denounce.

ALWAYS REGARDED AS A STYLISH WRITER BY HIS COLLEAGUES,

Honey, I rearranged the collection using every piece we bought as a substitute for another one we couldn't afford.

**"the dissolution into the real" Mondrian**

GOOD LUCK

The famous intellectual crab-tree which in half a century has borne the fruits called Symbolism, Impressionism, Cubism, Futurism, Dadaism, demands only to be felled.

HE SOMETIMES RAN INTO CAREER TURBULENCE BECAUSE OF AN ACKNOWLEDGED TENDENCY TO CARRY THINGS LIKE SENTENCES, PARAGRAPHS, IDEAS AND ENTHUSIASM FURTHER THAN AT LEAST SOME EDITORS PREFERRED...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to reflect its true origin: depression!

**Remember: Connote: The secondary meaning of a word or expression. i.e. Fireplace means warmth, hospitality, etc. To have significance only by association.**

NOTHING-NOBODY

The case of Marcel Duchamp offers us a precious line of demarcation between the two spirits that will tend to oppose one another more and more in the very heart of the "modern spirit"...

"OF COURSE I GO TOO FAR", HE USED TO SAY. "BUT UNLESS YOU GO TOO FAR HOW ARE YOU EVER GOING TO FIND OUT HOW FAR YOU CAN GO?"

Honey, I rearranged the collection to highlight the "first pieces". The first really expensive piece, the first piece we bought together, the first piece from our favorite artist, the first piece we put in the bedroom, etc.

**Denote: 1. To be a mark or sign of. 2. To be a name or designation for the association a word or expression means usually for most people speaking a language. Poodle is a breed of dog. Wind means air in motion.**

EVERYTHING IS OVER

The admirable beauty of the face imposes itself through no striking detail, and likewise,

ALL OF THIS MAY EXPLAIN THE SYMPATHY HE SHOWED IN HIS OBITUARIES OF UNDERACHIEVERS AND LATE BLOOMERS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to showcase the work we got before anyone else even heard of the artist.

**All experience comes from paradox–as in Magritte.**

ADULTS ONLY PLEASE

anything one can say to the man is shattered against a polished plaque that discloses nothing of what takes place in the depths;

ONE OF HIS ADMIRERS WAS JOSEPH EPSTEIN, THE LITERARY ESSAYIST. "I HAVE NOTED AN INTERESTING GENERAL ASSIGNMENT WRITER..."

Honey, I rearranged the collection to finally show all the works nobody knew we had. The "secret ones".

**The world of opposition continues: The Sky Above The Mud Below. One aspect of presenting opposite or contradictory states is the attempt to present something real while addressing the issue of appearance.**

NO, I'VE GOT SOMETHING IN MY EYE

and those laughing eyes, without irony, without indulgence, that dispel the slightest shadow of concentration and reveal the solicitude of the man to preserve a perfectly amiable exterior;

"THUS THOMAS ON ONE FRED ROSENSTIEL, 'WHO SPENT HIS LIFE PLANTING GARDENS TO BRIGHTEN THE LIVES OF HIS FELLOW NEW YORKERS, AND TO ALLEVIATE AN ABIDING SADNESS IN HIS HEART',

Honey, I rearranged the collection to give it more of a déjà vu feeling.

**The viewer stands in the middle as in real life, he is in the picture and the picture becomes a real thing. The viewer attempts some equilibrium, a repetition in objects. The struggle to adjust to mixed messages.**

WHO'S AFRAID OF THE NEW NOW?

elegance in its most fatal quality, that goes beyond elegance, a truly supreme Ease: thus Marcel Duchamp appeared to me in the course of his last stay in Paris;

THE SADNESS, WE LEARN LATER IN THE OBITUARY, DERIVED FROM MR. ROSENSTIEL'S INABILITY TO 'FORGIVE HIMSELF FOR SURVIVING THE HOLOCAUST'. A FINE TOUCH."

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that it represents my secret life. I'll be back in 2 weeks.

**Syncretism: the attempted reconciliation or union of different or opposing principals, practices or parties. The order of one's life/a devastating storm.**

IS ONE THING BETTER THAN ANOTHER*

I had not seen him before and, because of certain strokes of his intelligence that had reached me, I had expected something marvelous.

IN ADDITION TO HIS WIFE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection alphabetically according to the titles and then according to the artists' names. Names are better.

**"And why did he question? That's a fine question! He questioned so as to learn and then repeat". Jacques the Fatalist by Diderot**

FOREST ANIMALS, ETC.

First of all let us observe that the situation of Marcel Duchamp in relation to the contemporary movement is unique in that the most recent groupings invoke the authority of his name,

FEB.19, 1963
TUESDAY NIGHT
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it is always there and you are not!

**Reading/Writing/Drawing: Just what exactly is immediate experience?**

WHY DO WE FAIL?

although it is impossible to say up to what point he has never given them his consent,

MOM HAS GONE TO A PTA MEETING SO I GUESS I HAD BETTER START THE LETTER THIS TIME... MRS MUTCH DIED YESTERDAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and give it a new feel and then I gave all the works new titles. A little joke between me and the artists.

**"...a remembered event is infinite because it is only a key to everything that happened before it and after it". W. Benjamin on Proust Proofreading**

WHERE SHOULD I GO?

and although we see him turning with perfect freedom away from the complex of ideas whose originality was in large part due to him, before it took the systematic turn that alienates certain others as well.

ONE OF THE BOYS THAT LIVE NEXT TO JACKSON'S FOUND HER IN THE AFTERNOON AFTER HE GOT HOME FROM SCHOOL AND WAS HIKING AROUND. SHE WAS LYING FLAT ON THE GROUND NEAR HER BASEMENT DOOR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because rearranging these beautiful things is like the fountain of youth for me. I feel new.

**"...time reveals a new and hitherfore unknown kind of eternity to anyone who becomes engrossed in its passing..." cont.**

TRUE OR FALSE/FOR OR AGAINST

Can it be that Marcel Duchamp arrives more quickly than anyone else at the critical point of an idea?...

APPARENTLY SHE HAD GONE TO THE WELL FOR WATER, A PAN WAS NEAR HER PARTLY FILLED WITH WATER, AND HAD A HEART ATTACK. SHE HAD BEEN DOCTORING HERSELF FOR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE AND HEART TROUBLE. THE FUNERAL IS THURSDAY I GUESS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only works we bought the day we saw them.

**"He is filled with the insight that none of us has time to live the true dramas of the life that we are destined for. This is what ages us—this and nothing else. The wrinkles and creases on our faces are the registration of the great passions, vices, insights, that called us; but we, the masters, were not home." W. Benjamin on Proust**

ADVENTURE NOT PROGRESS/PROGRESS NOT ADVENTURE

...I have seen Duchamp do an extraordinary thing, toss a coin up in the air and say: "Tails I leave for America tonight, heads I stay in Paris".

BOY! THE TELEPHONE BILLS...

WE HAVE HAD THREE BEAUTIFUL DAYS IN A ROW; NOW MAKES A PERSON FEEL AS THOUGH SPRING ISN'T TOO FAR AWAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists' first names. All alphabetical except for conceptual artists.

**The rationalization of Modernism leaves a remainder or a repressed. The functional objects of the Bauhaus provoke the irrational object of Surrealism, the modern design object produces a kitsch object.**

THE COLOR OF PERFECTION IS PINK

No difference about it, it is certain that he infinitely preferred to go or to stay. But is not the personality of choice, the independence of which Duchamp, for example,

THINGS ARE GOING TO BE A BIT MIXED UP AROUND HERE THIS WEEKEND. MOM GOES TO THE HOSPITAL THURSDAY SO IT WILL BE JUST MARTHA AND I FOR THREE OR FOUR DAYS, INCLUDING SATURDAY AND SUNDAY...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in 2 new ways. One according to the I Ching, the other according to a tarot card reading I got recently. The I Ching is better.

**Concrete poetry into the world of display.**

AL'S CAFE REHEATED

by signing a manufactured object was one of the first to proclaim, the most tyrannical of all, and is it not fitting to put it to this test, provided that it is not to substitute for it a mysticism of chance?

MARCH 2, 1963
FRIDAY MORNING
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection instead of our relationship.

**On Marcel Broodthaers: "Claiming language as the basis of reality and thus the fundamental unit of any construction..."**

WATCH OUT*

Ah! If only the coin could take a month or a year to fall, how well everyone would understand us! Fortunately it is in the interval of a breath that the thing is decided...

DID YOUR MISSING LETTER SHOW UP YET? IT SURE WAS A SHAME THAT IT GOT LOST AS IT MADE YOU GO SO LONG WITHOUT HEARING FROM US.

Honey, I rearranged the collection doing a modern and then a post-modern arrangement. Can you tell the difference?

**"There are no primary structures apart from the language that defines them. I mean that an artist does not construct a volume. He writes a volume." Anne Rorimer**

JEDI DANCE MR. MOM ALIVE

In writing these lines, despite the extremely ambitious title under which I thought to gather them, I have not undertaken to exhaust the subject: Marcel Duchamp.

I DON'T REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT I DID SAY ABOUT MRS. MUTSCH IN MY LETTER AS WE TOLD YOU ABOUT IT IN THE LETTER BEFORE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to take all our random decisions out of it. They were too obvious.

**I think about the incompleteness of a Broodthaers show. Each work adding to the next but never finished. Even in a retrospective.**

HARDCORE 24 HOURS A DAY

My desire was only to avoid, in connection with Duchamp, a return to errors akin to those of Apollinaire or of Dada,

MRS. RICHMONT SAID SHE WAS GLAD THE BOYS HAD SENSE ENOUGH TO GO FOR ARTIE INSTEAD OF GOING OVER TO WHERE SHE WAS LYING. HE WAS (JOHNNY) ALL SHOOK UP ABOUT IT ANYWAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using all the pieces people are envious of and that we paid nothing for.

**It's not one thing after another anymore, it's everything all at once.**

DRAWN FROM LIFE BY A. RUPPERSBERG

and even more to ruin any future systematization of Duchamp's attitude as it cannot fail to appear to simple people with a "love of novelty".

BEV. TOLD ME WHEN SHE CAME AROUND TO COLLECT FOR THE FLOWERS THE NEIGHBORS SENT, THAT IN THE HOUSE IT LOOKED LIKE SHE WAS JUST STARTING TO GET HER LUNCH AND DECIDED TO GO AFTER SOME WATER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to how the book collection is arranged. Number of works by the same author/artist together, color of book, color of artwork, signed or unsigned, number of pages in the book, size of artwork, etc.

**Found vs Made/Lost vs Found/Random vs Precise**

ABSTRACT 1

I know that Duchamp does hardly anything now but play chess, and that he would be content if one day he might prove himself insuperable at that game.

THE PAIL WAS NEAR HER, TIPPED OVER WITH A LITTLE WATER IN IT. IT BOTHERS ME SO TO THINK MAYBE SHE WAS CALLING FOR HELP AND THERE WAS NO ONE TO HEAR HER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to align it with our rare books. Only artists whose first name matches that of an author is included. A lot of works came out of storage.

**Books into Films: Another remake of "Cyrano de Bergerac", "A Rage in Harlem", "The Sheltering Sky", Jim Thomson's "After Dark My Sweet" and "The Grifters", "The Hot Spot" by Charles Williams and "Wild At Heart" by Barry Gifford.**

TRANSLATED BY A. RUPPERSBERG

Thus it will be said that he has declared his attitude toward the intellectual dilemma:

I GUESS IT WAS MORE LIKELY THO' THAT SHE HAD A HEART ATTACK AND JUST FELL OVER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show what we could put on our website and what should stay in deep storage.

**"...returns again and again to the same group of images, bringing the relationship between them into sharp focus (at the expense of the images themselves)". Cornell essay**

TODAY TOMORROW THE NEXT DAY AND THE DAY AFTER THAT

he consents, if you will, to pass for an artist, in the sense of a man who has produced little because he could not do otherwise.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE PROPERTY; I THINK THERE WAS ONLY ONE NIECE OF MRS. MOTSCH'S LEFT AS THE OTHER CLOSE RELATIVES ARE ALL DEAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and exchanged works from storage with works that have not moved for over 10 years.

**for a floor text: "in cinema the verbs are always in the present tense". Robbe-Grillet**

COCKTAIL/FISHERMAN/ARROW IMAGES

Thus he, who has delivered us from the conception of blackmail-lyricism with readymade expression, to which we shall have occasion to return, would for most people resolve himself into a symbol.

PROBABLY THE NEXT THING WE KNOW, THE HOUSE WILL BE TORN DOWN AND BARR ROAD EXTENDED TO RT 82. WITH HOUSES ALL ALONG IT! GUESS NOTHING CAN BE DONE ABOUT ANYTHING FOR 6 MONTHS AS I BELIEVE IT HAS TO GO THROUGH PROBATE COURT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to present a new reason to collect more and more and more.

1990

WHY IS EVERYTHING THE SAME?

I refuse to see in this anything more than a trap on his part. As for me, and I have said this before, the thing that constitutes the strength of Marcel Duchamp,

I CAME HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL ON WEDNESDAY AND ALTHOUGH I HAVEN'T DONE MUCH TO TEST MYSELF OUT, I SEEM TO BE GETTING ALONG OK...

Honey, I rearranged the collection and left out all of my favorites.

**Images:**
**Godard declares a fascination for their essential mystery.**
**The way in which a single shot contains the seeds of a thousand stories.**

"WHO SHALL SAY WHERE THE ONE ENDS, AND WHERE THE OTHER BEGINS?" EDGAR ALLAN POE

the thing to which he owes his escape alive from several perilous situations, is above all his Distain for the thesis, which will always astonish less-favored men.

I SURE HOPE WE STILL CAN COME OUT NEXT SUMMER BUT THE BILLS DO PILE UP...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only artists who like Mexican, Italian, and Ethiopian food.

**Does an advertisement begin with a sketch?**

**WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH ANYWAY?**

In conclusion, I think it will be a good idea to concentrate our attention on this distain and to this end it may suffice for us to evoke that glass painting to which Duchamp will soon have given ten years of his life,

I IMAGINE YOU DO FIND THE MONEY PICTURE QUITE DIFFERENT THEN WHEN YOU WERE HERE AT HOME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only works which are beautiful and easy to arrange. No bland conceptual or critique stuff.

**Romance novels and Lost-and-found ads**
**Attraction/Self-destruction**

"THERE IS JUST

which is not the unknown masterpiece, and concerning which, even before its completion, the most beautiful legends are current;

YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE MONEY, WILL YOU MAKE OUT ALL RIGHT?
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with some new categories in mind: best post-hybrid piece; best examples of photo-narrative-sequence-art circa 1979; most boring conceptual piece, 1st and 2nd generation; and more–find them all!

**Marcel Proust and Raymond Roussel lived on the same street.**

A MOMENT

or to recall one or another of those strange plays on words which their author signs: Rrose Sélavy, and which demand a special examination:

MARCH 10, 1963
SATURDAY AFTERNOON
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection with our favorites, and our curator's favorites.

**New poster: See Good and Evil or I Hate Me.**

WHEN THINGS CEASE

Conseil d'hygiène intime:
Il faut mettre la moëlle de l'épée dans le poil de l'aimée.

I HEADED THIS LETTER "AFTERNOON" BUT IT IS 5 O'CLOCK SO IT IS NEARLY EVENING... MARTHA WAS OUT ALL THE WEEK I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL AND WENT BACK THIS WEEK ON MONDAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and eliminated all works which are theory-based. Intuition rules in this house.

**Art Movies Posters Books**

TO BE

Advice for intimate hygiene:
Put the marrow of the sword into the hairy place of the beloved.

TUESDAY MORNING I GOT A CALL FROM THE SCHOOL TO COME AND GET HER. OF COURSE SHE HAD TO GO TO GYM AND OF ALL TIMES, THEY WERE TAKING PHYSICAL FITNESS TESTS!

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and remember who we were when we bought these things.

**Panic in the City**
**1968 Howard Duff—generic movie**

A MERE SPECTACLE

For Marcel Duchamp the question of art and life, as well as any other question capable of dividing us at the present moment, does not arise".

SHE JUST WASN'T PHYSICALLY FIT AND THE EXERTION GOT HER TO COUGHING. SHE COULDN'T STOP AND FINALLY IT MADE HER SICK. AFTER THAT SHE GOT ALL COLD AND CLAMMY SO THEY CALLED ME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to highlight the relationship of difficult artists to their collectors.

**If you don't think men rise from the dead then you should be here at 5:30. —sign in hardware store.**

WHEN

Two Marcel

I HADN'T HAD THE CAR OUT FOR NEARLY TWO WEEKS AND WITH THE KIND OF WEATHER WE HAVE BEEN HAVING, THE DOORS WERE FROZEN SHUT AND I COULN'T BUDGE THEM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I am disappointed with it.

**Poster: The Art life is the best life/My Grandmother's ass/Who says so?**

A MAN IS LOST AND

Marcel Proust, July 10, 1871/November 18, 1922. He was 51.

I WAS AFRAID TO DO TOO MUCH PULLING ON THEM AS I WASN'T IN TOO GOOD SHAPE MYSELF. I FINALLY GAVE UP ON THEM AND CALLED MARION COMSTOCK AND ASKED HER TO BRING MARTHA HOME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show you that Los Angeles has taken over our collection.

**"Things are there. Why manipulate them?" Rossellini**

SHOWS THAT

...art, if it means awareness of our own life, means also awareness of the lives of other people–for style for the writer, no less than color for the painter, is a question not of technique,

I WAS DUE AT THE DOCTOR'S FOR A CHECKUP THAT NIGHT SO TOOK MARTHA ALONG. HE GAVE US A PRESCRIPTION FOR PILLS AND SAID TO KEEP HER HOME THE REST OF THE WEEK...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let everyone know I'm more interested in the artists than you are.

**"The whole material world is one signal which when decoded reveals the message of the divine." Signs and Meaning**

HE

but a vision: it is the revelation, which by direct and conscious methods would be impossible, of the qualitative difference, the uniqueness of the fashion in which the world appears to each of us,

I AM FEELING PRETTY GOOD AGAIN BUT DO GET TIRED RATHER QUICKLY... MRS. RICHMONT CALLS EVERY SO OFTEN TO SEE HOW YOU ARE GETTING ALONG... WELL, I GUESS I'D BETTER START SUPPER...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the color patterns on the Weather Channel.

1991-1992

IS LOST"

a difference which, if there were no art, would remain forever the secret of every individual.
Marcel Proust, "Time Regained"

DEAR ALLEN:
...OUR DEAL WITH MINARIK ELECTRIC HAS NOT BEEN FULLY CONSUMMATED YET SO DO NOT KNOW JUST WHAT WILL COME OF THAT. WE FULLY EXPECT FOR IT TO WORK OUT EVENTUALLY THOUGH

Honey, I rearranged the collection using artists whom we know virtually nothing about.

**I don't really think about creating images; it's more about showing the world itself through its own images. Putting the complex into the simple.**

JEAN-LUC GODARD

The story of Marcel Proust, as it is presented to us in the pages of his book, was that of a man who was devotedly attached to the magic world of his childhood;

AND HAVE BEEN MAKING PLANS SO I CAN BE OUT OF THE OFFICE MORE AND MORE. UNCLE DON HAD A BAD BREAK. I GUESS YOU KNEW THAT HE RECENTLY LEFT THE WATER SOFTENER BUSINESS TO GO WITH ANOTHER FELLOW INTO SOMETHING ELSE

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it feels small to me and small gets overlooked.

**"...the refined thing must be judged by the fundamental thing." T. Crow**

NOSTALGIA IS OVER

of a man who felt, very early, the need to make some permanent record of that world and of the beauty which he had discovered in certain moments of experience;

STILL SELLING THOUGH. WELL THE FELLOW UP AND COMMITTED SUICIDE A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO SO NOW DON HAS TO START SOMETHING ELSE AGAIN.

Honey, I rearranged the collection just after lunch.

**A fringe character even when at the center of the frame.**

BOXING IMAGES (DOUBLE SIZE)

of a man who, knowing his own weakness, long hoped he would not be called upon to leave the paradise of family life, and that it might be possible for him,

I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM BUT AUNT IRENE WROTE GRANDMA JUST LAST WEEK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection separating our styles. I'm minimal and you're medieval.

**The idea is to make art while eluding the very project of making art. "We search everywhere for the absolute and we only find things." Novalis quoted by Godard.**

SLAM, SMASH, MEE-OW, BUMP, ETC.

instead of struggling with his fellow men, to win them by the sweetness of his nature;

SUNDAY A.M. 9:30

TYPICAL MARCH DAY, WIND ABOUT 30 MILES / HOUR FROM WEST, FEW SNOW FLURRIES, TEMPERATURES 30 DEGREES BUT SEEMS COLDER BECAUSE OF HIGH WINDS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection thinking about that museum director's job.

**"It is when a man talks simply for the sake of talking that he pronounces the most beautiful and original truths." Novalis quoted by Godard.**

METAMORPHOSIS 1992
PATRIOTE PALLOY AND HARRY HOUDINI

of a man who, having suffered the hard blows of life and felt the biting lash of many passions, himself became sometimes harsh and sometimes cruel;

RIGHT NOW THE SUN HAS COME OUT AND THE CLOUDS SEEM TO BE BREAKING UP... HOPE EVERYTHING IS FINE WITH YOU.
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection remembering when I used to go to auctions with my mother.

**I reinvent the idea of what I make every time I make something.**

"IN ORDER TO REMAIN SECRET, THE INDIRECT MUST TAKE SHELTER UNDER THE VERY FIGURES OF THE DIRECT..." ROLAND BARTHES

of a man who, after his mother's death, was driven from his refuge, but managed, thanks to illness, to lead a sheltered existence,

APRIL 1, 1963
MONDAY AFTERNOON
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection savoring those grand words: "Now, ladies and gentleman, the high point of this sale..."

**As a reader of everything, the work is about reading. From the Table of Contents to The End without regard to hierarchy.**

"YOU JUST HAVE TO KNOW HOW TO DO IT. THERE'S NOTHING TO IT IF YOU JUST KNOW THE TRICK" HARRY HOUDINI

and in a condition of semi-monanastic seculsion, dedicated the remaining years of his life to the task of recreating his lost childhood and subsequent disenchantment;

...I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE, BUT IT REALLY IS BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE SPRING. THE TEMPERATURES ARE IN THE 60-70 RANGE AND ARE SUPPOSED TO CONTINUE THAT WAY ALL WEEK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and left out all your favorites.

**A deep complex structure, literary in nature on which is hung the vernacular—based on ephemerality and language.**

WHAT IS METAMORPHOSIS? WHO ARE PATRIOTE PALLOY AND HARRY HOUDINI? AND WHAT DO THEY HAVE TO DO WITH ONE ANOTHER?

of a man who, in the end, successfully made of Time thus Regained the matter of one of the greatest works of imagination of all time.
André Maurois, "Proust: Portrait of a Genius", 1950

MY ROSES THAT WERE COVERED WITH 6 TO 8 FEET OF SNOW ALL WINTER ARE ALL GREEN AND THE LEAVES ARE STARTING TO COME OUT. THE DAFFODILS HAVE BIG BUDS AND THE FORSYTHIA IS TURNING YELLOW.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and put back all your favorites.

**"...Fellini mixed nostalgia with the grotesque to come up with 'Amarcord'."**

WE SHALL SEE. FIRST THE STAGE, THEN THE TRICK AND FINALLY THE SECRET.

"And as soon as I recognized the taste of the piece of madeleine soaked in her decoction of lime-blossom

EVEN THE LILAC BUDS ARE PRETTY BIG. IT IS STARTING TO RAIN RIGHT NOW, APRIL SHOWERS, THIS BEING THE FIRST DAY OF APRIL...

Honey, I rearranged the collection. What do you think of it? Can you even tell?

**How obsessive can one be until it turns to formal clarity?**

THE STAGE

which my aunt used to give me (although I did not yet know and must long postpone the discovery of why this memory made me so happy)

TOMORROW I THINK I WILL GO DOWNTOWN...

Honey, I rearranged the collection after coming home from discussing the menu of the company's next annual banquet.

**New poster: See Good and Evil**

ITEM: HARRY HOUDINI WAS BORN EHRICH WEISS ON APRIL 6, 1874 IN APPLETON, WISCONSIN, THE SON OF A RABBI. PATRIOTE PALLOY WAS BORN PIERRE-FRANÇOIS PALLOY ON JANUARY 23, 1755 IN PARIS, THE SON OF WINE MERCHANTS.

immediately the old grey house upon the street, where her room was, rose up like a stage set

PAPA AND ALLA ARE STARTING FOR HOME THIS FRIDAY. THEY ARE COMING HOME WITH THE SNOW WHO HAVE ALSO BEEN VACATIONING IN EUSTIS. THEY WILL BE ABLE TO GET THEIR MONEY BACK FROM THE AIRPLANE TICKETS... THEY HAD ROUND-TRIP TICKETS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show how the foundation of our collection is really just coincidence.

**Art Movies Posters Books**
**I like to make things that are already something else.**

ITEM: SEPARATED BY A CENTURY, PALLOY SOLD PATRIOTISM AND BECAME IN HIS OWN WORDS A "PATRIOT" AND HOUDINI SOLD MAGIC TO BECOME IN HIS OWN WORDS A "MYSTERIOUS ENTERTAINER". ONE WAS FORGOTTEN, THE OTHER BECAME A LEGEND.

to attach itself to the little pavilion opening on to the garden which had been built out behind it for my parents (the isolated segment which until that moment had been all that I could see);

I HOPE CLAIR GETS HIMSELF STRAIGHTENED OUT BEFORE THEY ARRIVE. HE HAS BEEN JUST TERRIBLE ALL WINTER. AUNTIE MARION MOVED UP WITH HER SISTER FOR A WHILE... HE WAS JUST IMPOSSIBLE TO LIVE WITH, DRINKING ALL THE TIME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we tried to collect Conceptual Art but wound up with something else.

**THE SKY ABOVE/THE MUD BELOW** 1988

ITEMS: EVENTS HAVE THEIR OWN WAYS OF SHAPING A LIFE; ONCE THEY HAVE TAKEN PLACE, THEY CAN NEVER BE UNDONE OR IGNORED.

and with the house the town, from morning to night and in all weathers, the Square where I used to be sent before lunch, the streets along which I used to run errands, the country roads we took when it was fine.

IF HE ONLY COULD SEE WHAT HE IS DOING TO HIMSELF AND THE WHOLE FAMILY BUT PEOPLE IN HIS SHAPE ONLY THINK EVERYONE IS AGAINST THEM AND TRYING TO TAKE THEIR PLEASURES AWAY FROM THEM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection while I was drunk. Can you tell?

**From Everlasting to Everlasting**
**And Song and Dance and Eyes and Heart**
**And Horizon Line_____**

BOTH MEN STEPPED UP OUT OF THE AUDIENCE AND CROSSED THE DIVIDING LINE TO THE PERFORMER'S SIDE OF THE STAGE.

And as in the game wherein the Japanese amuse themselves by filling a porcelain bowl with water and steeping in it little pieces of paper which until then are without character or form,

YESTERDAY WE ATE DINNER AT THE TURNPIKE RESTAURANT...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are collectors not hoarders.

**Le Mot Juste and The Circus is Coming**
**And East of Eden and/or Amor and**
**Always Spring and Every Fruit and**
**The Race goes on and on**

THEY WERE NOT THE PUBLIC ANY LONGER FOR THEY HAD BEEN INVITED TO JOIN THE CHARMED AND SECRET CIRCLE OF THOSE WHO KNEW THE TRUTH WHO COULD THEMSELVES MAKE MAGIC FOR MORE CREDULOUS FOLK.

but the moment they become wet, stretch and twist and take on color and distinctive shape, become flowers or houses or people, solid and recognizable,

MONDAY EVENING 4/1

DEAR ALLEN:

MARTHA AND I LOOKED AT A COUPLE OF TV SHOWS, JUST FINISHED WATCHING "RIFLEMAN", WHICH WAS PRETTY SILLY THIS TIME, AND NOW MARTHA HAS GONE TO BED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only works which have nothing to do with Mr. Duchamp. Enough already.

**A world made up of bits and fragments.**
**"...he found a way of telling. He mixed the fabulous and the historic, he made room for anecdotes, tales, essayistic asides, political commentary, digressions, retracings, sidetracks..."**

ITEM: HOUDINI'S CAREER COINCIDED ROUGHLY WITH THE LIFE SPAN OF EARLY VAUDEVILLE ITSELF DEVELOPING BEFORE THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, AND LASTING UNTIL MOTION PICTURES REPLACED LIVE PERFORMERS IN MOST THEATERS.

so in that moment all the flowers in our garden and in M. Swann's park and the water-lilies on the Vivonne

SO NOW I AM ALL BY MYSELF, THAT IS AS FAR AS DOWNSTAIRS IS CONCERNED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection dreaming about naming our museum. The Bourg-Saint-Maurice Museum after where I was born. OK?

**Pleasure: What is buried and the release in the conscious mind.**

HE WAS A CHILD OF VAUDEVILLE AND ESPECIALLY SKILLFUL AT THE TECHNIQUES OF PUBLICITY.

and the good folk of the village and their little dwellings and the parish church and the whole of Combray and its surroundings, taking shape and solidity, sprang into being, town and gardens alike, from my cup of tea".
"Swann's Way"

IT WAS REAL NICE BEING ABLE TO JUST RAISE THE STORM WINDOWS AND LOWER THE SCREENS UPSTAIRS. SINCE IT HAS WARMED UP I PUT THE SCREENS DOWN IN YOUR ROOM AND MARTHA'S ROOM SO THE AIR COULD BLOW THROUGH BETTER...

Honey, I rearranged the collection putting only American artists that Europeans like with the Europeans that Americans like.

**Marcel Proust's REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST. Trans. C.K. Scott Moncrieff and Terence Kilmartin, New York: Random House/Vintage 1982, 3 volumes.**

HE WAS, FOR EXAMPLE, ONE OF THE GREATEST EXPERTS ON HANDCUFFS THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN AND WAS NEVER DEFEATED BY ANY HANDCUFF CHALLENGE THE PUBLIC COULD CONTRIVE.

Proust's life began with the Paris Commune of 1871 and ended in fame and exhaustion four years after World War I. In those fifty-one years he lived two closely interlocking careers.

SPRING HAS SURE GOTTEN SPOT ALL STIRRED UP, WE HAVE TO WATCH HIM WHEN WE LET HIM OUT IF WE DON'T TIE HIM TO THE PORCH RAIL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I think it's fun. Remember the Fun Gallery in the East Village? Fun counts.

**THE NEW SCHOOL** 1990

HOWEVER, HIS SUCCESS CAME WHEN HE LEARNED THAT IN ORDER TO PRESENT THE TRICK IN AN EFFECTIVE MANNER HE HAD TO MAKE IT APPEAR TO BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT WHEN IT WAS IN FACT QUITE SIMPLE FOR HIM.

Beginning very early, this sensitive, gifted young man with something slightly Middle Eastern about his soft manner and dark look,

HE JUST WANDERS OFF, EVEN CROSSES THE STREET SOMETIMES, AND DOESN'T COME BACK FOR ONE HALF OR THREE QUARTERS OF AN HOUR...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only artists with 3 letters in their last name.

**Sept. 26** **Introduction**
**Oct. 03** **SWANN'S WAY (the innocent world of childhood)**
**1913 Overture Combray**

ITEM: AFTER TAKING A COMMISSION IN THE ARMY AS A YOUNG MAN, PALLOY BECAME AN APPRENTICE MASON WHO SHORTLY MARRIED HIS MASTER'S DAUGHTER AND LAUNCHED HIMSELF IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

carried out a brilliant escape from his bourgeois background and from the professional career expected of the eldest son of a prominent Paris doctor.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1998
WRIGHT MORRIS, A NOVELIST OF THE NEBRASKA PRAIRIE, DIES AT 88
BY RAPH BLUMENTHAL

Honey, I rearranged the collection because someone told me it was a sellers' market.

**Oct. 10 Swann in Love (a paradigm of love in RTP)**

BY 1789 HE HAD AMASSED A SIZABLE FORTUNE AND WAS CONSIDERED A MODEL SUCCESS STORY OF OLD REGIME CAPITALISM.

He accomplished this feat by ingratiating himself with the wealthy and sometimes aristocratic families of his schoolmates at the Lycée Condorcet.

WRIGHT MORRIS, WHOSE TAUT AMERICAN GOTHIC NOVELS, STORIES, ESSAYS AND PHOTOGRAPHS PLUMBED THE MYSTERIES OF THE STARK NEBRASKA LANSCAPE

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm not a "passive observer" anymore.

**Oct. 17** **Place-names: The Name**
**WITHIN A BUDDING GROVE (the joyful world of adolescence) 1918 Madame Swann at Home**

ON THE 14TH OF JULY, HE WAS ACTING COMMANDANT OF HIS LOCAL DISTRICT MILITIA ON THE ILE SAINT-LOUIS. WELL WITHIN HEARING RANGE OF THE BATTLE AT THE BASTILLE, HE CLAIMED THAT HE HAD RUN TO THE SCENE AND ON ARRIVAL TOOK A BALL THROUGH HIS TRICORN HAT BY THE SIDE OF ONE LIEUT. ELIE.

By the age of seventeen, exploiting his talents as a mimic and conversationalist, he was visiting literary salons and learning his way in society.

AND WHO WAS OFTEN CALLED ONE THE NATION'S MOST UNRECOGNIZED RECOGNIZED WRITERS, DIED ON SATURDAY IN MILL VALLEY, CALIF. HE WAS 88.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to compare art and gossip.

**Oct. 24 Place-names: The Place**

HE ACQUIRED A BREVET DE VAINQUEUR TO CERTIFY THAT HE HAD BEEN ONE OF THE SACRED NINE HUNDRED.

In his mid-thirties, soon after the death of both his parents, his first career as a somewhat eccentric man of the world gave way to another activity: literature.

DRAWING ON A PICARESQUE CHILDHOOD AND COMIC OVERSEAS MISADVENTURES,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to highlight insides, anecdotes, genealogy, and gossip.

**Oct. 31** **Take home examination on the first volume THE GUERMANTES WAY I (the cruel world of society) 1920, 1-67, 125-357 Bring both volumes!**

ITEM: AS A MEASURE OF HIS ACCOMPLISHMENT, THE STANDARD DICTIONARIES OF THE PERIOD CONTAINED THE WORD HOUDINIZE WHICH WAS "TO RELEASE OR EXTRICATE ONESELF (FROM CONFINEMENT, BONDS AND THE LIKE) AS BY WRIGGLING OUT".

Up to that point Proust's writing had served his social ambitions or had been kept hidden. He now reversed the poles of his existence.

MR. MORRIS WROTE 33 BOOKS, INCLUDING 19 NOVELS, THREE MEMOIRS, FOUR BOOKS OF ESSAYS, TWO COLLECTIONS OF SHORT STORIES AND FIVE BOOKS OF ANNOTED PHOTOGRAPHS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection but you would never notice.

Nov. 07 **THE GUERMANTES WAY II**, 1921, 358-620
**CITIES OF THE PLAIN I** (the degrading world of vice) 1921, 623-656

ITEM: THE REALITY OF THE BASTILLE, THE BASTILLE ITSELF, WAS FAR LESS IMPORTANT THAN ITS AFTERLIFE IN LEGEND.

For the last fifteen years of his life, his social connections and his worldliness furnished the raw material of his writing.
"Marcel Proust", Roger Shattuck

HIS WORK WAS WIDELY PRAISED AND HONORED WITH LITERARY AWARDS, BUT MANY ADMIRERS FELT THAT IN THE END, MR. MORRIS TOOK LITERATURE MORE SERIOUSLY THAN IT TOOK HIM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let the artists speak for themselves. Critics hate that!

Nov. 14 **CITIES OF THE PLAIN II**, 1922, 657-664, 678-868, 890-916, 999-1046, 1148-1169

THE BASTILLE GAVE SHAPE AND AN IMAGE TO ALL THE VICES AGAINST WHICH THE FRENCH REVOLUTION DEFINED ITSELF.

"And I realized that it was for herself that she obeyed these canons in accordance with which she dressed,

"NO BOOK OF MINE CAN BE READ UNDER A HAIR DRYER, WHILE BOLTING A HAMBURGER OR HALF-WATCHING TV", HE SAID IN 1963,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see how many "geniuses" we have.

**Nov. 21 Holiday**

THE MYTH OF PATRIOTIC UNITY BECAME ENSHRINED IN A CULT OF THE BASTILLE. NO ONE GRASPED THE CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BETTER THAN PALLOY.

and though yielding to a superior wisdom of which she herself was the high priestess: for if it should happen that,

ACKNOWLEDGING HIS REPUTATION AS A SOPHISTICATED WRITER ON UNSOPHISTICATED SUBJECTS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and prove that artists are not gods for Christ's sake. I'm sick of it.

Nov. 28 **THE CAPTIVE** (the obsessive world of jealousy)
1923, 1-332

HE BECAME BOTH THE ENTREPRENEUR AND THE IMPRESARIO OF THE GREATEST DEMOLITION JOB IN MODERN HISTORY AND THE INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL OF LIBERATED HUMANITY.

feeling too warm, she threw open or even took off altogether and gave me to carry the jacket which she had intended to keep buttoned up,

IN HIS EVOCATION OF IDIOSYNCRATIC AMERICA, MR. MORRIS WAS COMPARED TO SHERWOOD ANDERSON AND FAULKNER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection after we met Sherrie Levine. Get it? Ha Ha.

Dec. 05 **THE FUGITIVE** (the intermittent world of suffering) 1925, 425-705

ITEM: EACH AGE INVENTS ITS OWN SPIRIT AND THE PERSON WHO REPRESENTS IT. THEY PASS IT ON TO THE WAITING PUBLIC.

I would discover in the blouse beneath it a thousand details of execution which had had every chance of remaining unobserved,

IN HIS CELEBRATION OF THE NEBRASKA PRAIRIE AND THE HARDLY FOLKS WHO TAMED IT, MR. MORRIS WAS COMPARED TO WILLA CATHER, AND HE, LIKE SHE, SUFFERED THE SNOBBERY OF EASTERNERS LIKE H.L. MENCKEN, WHO SAID OF CATHER,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if all the 90's works come out of the 60's and 70's like they say.

**Dec. 12 TIME REGAINED** (the tragic world of time and death) 1927, 709-918

THE ARENA OF CONSUMPTION WILL VARY BUT HISTORY WILL REVEAL THEIR SIMILARITIES.

like those parts of an orchestral score to which the composer has devoted infinite labour although they may never reach the ears of the public:

"I DON'T CARE HOW WELL SHE WRITES, I DON'T GIVE A DAMN WHAT HAPPENS IN NEBRASKA". BUT MANY READERS DID,

Honey, I rearranged the collection by thinking about which artists are the most fun.

**Dec. 19 TIME REGAINED** (the world of art and salvation) 918-1107

ITEM: PALLOY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE FRENCH REVOLUTION HAD CREATED A DEMAND FOR A NEW KIND OF HISTORY, ONE THAT TOLD OF THE EPIC OF THE COMMON MAN.

or, in the sleeves of the jacket that lay folded across my arm I would see, and would lengthily gaze at, for my own pleasure or from affection for its wearer,

CAPTIVATED BY MR. MORRIS'S SPARE AND LUMINOUS PROSE, WHICH WAS ENLIVENED BY SHARP DETAIL...

Honey, I rearranged the collection by separating all the divorced artists couples.

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY IN ENGLISH**
**Germaine Bree, Marcel Proust and Deliverance from time. Grove, 1955**

THIS NEW HISTORY HAD TO BE RELATED IN A NEW WAY. HISTORY WAS TO BE MADE DIRECTLY CONTEMPORARY WITH THE AVERAGE CITIZEN'S LIFE.

some exquisite detail, a deliciously tinted strap, a lining of mauve satinette which, ordinarily concealed from every eye, was yet just a delicately fashioned as the outer parts,

IN "COLLECTED STORIES", HE DESCRIBED HIS MAIDEN AUNT WINONA: "SHE GAVE TO THIS FARMHOUSE KITCHEN, THE LIGHT FLAMING HER HAIR, THE TIME-STOPPED DAZZLE OF VERMEER'S PAINTINGS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to make room for the archive.

J.M. Cocking, Proust: Collected Essays on the Writer and his Art. Cambridge, 1982

HE WOULD INSERT HIS OWN EXPERIENCE, EVEN AT SECOND HAND, INTO THE UNFOLDING PRESENT. INSTEAD OF CONTEMPLATING THE VAST CENTURIES, THE NEW HISTORY WOULD BE CHOPPED UP INTO MEMORIES OF A SINGLE DAY OR WEEK.

like those Gothic carvings on a cathedral, hidden on the inside of a balustrade eighty feet from the ground, as perfect as the bas-reliefs over the main porch,

SHE POURED MILK FROM A BOWL, THREADED A NEEDLE, PICKED UP CRUMBS FROM THE TABLE."

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and explain ourselves to our fellow collectors.

**Gilles Deleuze, Proust and Signs. Tr. Richard Howard**

FINALLY, TO LEND IMMEDIACY TO THE EVENTS FOR THOSE WHO WERE GEOGRAPHICALLY DISTANT, SOUVENIRS HAD TO TAKE CONCRETE FORM, SO THAT BY CONTEMPLATING OR TOUCHING THEM THE CITIZEN COULD SHARE IN THE INTENSITY OF THE EVENT.

and yet neber seen by any libing man until, happening to pass that way upon his trabels, an artist obtains leabe to climb up there among them,

MR. MORRIS WAS BORN IN 1910 IN CENTRAL CITY, NEB., WHERE HE WOULD SET MANY OF HIS STORIES.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to better understand the outré opinions we are told we have.

**Gerard Genette, Narrative Discourse and Essay in Method. Cornell, 1979**

THE 14TH OF JULY BEING THE GREAT EVENT, IT TOOK PALLOY JUST ONE DAY TO REALIZE THAT AS VAINQUEUR, CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, AND EXPERIENCED BOSS OF LABOR GANGS, HE WAS IN A POSITION TO ACQUIRE A MOST IMPORTANT PIECE OF REAL ESTATE.

to stroll in the open air, overlooking the whole town, between the soaring towers".
Proust, "Within a Budding Grove"

HIS MOTHER DIED WHEN HE WAS 6 DAYS OLD AND HIS FATHER, A RAILROAD MAN TURNED UNSUCCESSFUL FARMER, MARRIED A TEEN-AGE DANCER WHO PROVED LESS THAN A MODEL STEPMOTHER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't know how to put "neo" and "post" in the same room.

**René Girard, Desire, Deceit and the Novel. Johns Hopkins, 1965**

ON THE 15TH HE BROUGHT 800 MEN TO THE BASTILLE, READY TO BEGIN THE WORK OF DEMOLITION.

"Next to this central belief which, while I was reading would be constantly reaching out from my inner self to the outer world, towards the discovery of Truth,

AS A YOUTH, WRIGHT BUMMED AROUND THE MIDWEST AND MADE HIS WAY TO CALIFORNIA, WHERE HE DABBLED IN WRITING BEFORE DROPPING OUT OF COLLEGE TO ROAM EUROPE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to separate works which only seem to be about ideas from those which are truly splendid.

**J.P. Houston, The Shape and Style of Proust's Novel. Wayne State, 1982**

ONCE THE FIRST STONE FELL THE FREE-FOR-ALL BEGAN: BONFIRES BURNED BY DAY AND FIREWORKS EXPLODED BY NIGHT AND GOOD PATRIOTS WERE EVERYWHERE WITH STORIES AND TOURS.

came the emotions aroused in me by the action in which I was taking part, for these afternoons were crammed with more dramatic events than occur, often, in a whole lifetime.

"I HAD REACHED THE AGE OF 23 WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT BOOKS", HE LATER WROTE. BUT IN EUROPE HE DISCOVERED LITERATURE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to separate unhappy artists with problems from the rest. I couldn't do it. It would be the whole collection.

**E.J. Hughes, Marcel Proust: A Study in the Quality of Awareness. Cambridge, 1983**

THROUGH IT ALL PALLOY WAS PLANNING HIS BUSINESS. HE NOT ONLY PROVIDED WORK AND PAY, BUT GAVE STRUCTURE TO THE ENTIRE ENTERPRISE.

These were the events taking place in the book I was reading.

IN 1934 HE MARRIED A FELLOW STUDENT. THEY LATER DIVORCED AND HE MARRIED JOSEPHINE MARY ROSSLER, AN ART COLLECTOR AND DEALER, IN 1961. SHE IS HIS ONLY SURVIVOR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in memory of Nick Wilder.

**T. Kilmartin, A Reader's Guide to RTP. Random House, 1983**

HE DESIGNED IDENTITY CARDS, HE ACTED AS BOSS-FATHER, THROWING PARTIES FOR THE WORKERS, AND PLAYING WITH THE CHILDREN.

It is true that the people concerned in them were not what Françoise would have called "real people".

IN 1957 HE WON THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION FOR "THE FIELD OF VISION", A BULLFIGHTING EPIC SET IN MEXICO...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to how different artists' names sound together like Serra Bloom or Ray Manzoni, Sherman Opie.

**André Maurois, Proust, a Biography. Meridien, 1958**

WIELDING A CANE AND A CLAPPER WITH WHICH TO CALL PEOPLE TO ATTENTION, HE WAS ALSO CONSTABLE, JUDGE AND JURY FOR THOSE CAUGHT STEALING OR GETTING INTO DRUNKEN FIGHTS.

But none of the feelings which the joys or misfortunes of a "real" person arouse in us can be awakened except through a mental picture of those joys or misfortunes;

IN 1970 HE WAS VOTED INTO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND LETTERS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists whose names I never remember. Like Tom Wesselman.

**Jack Murray, The Proustian Comedy. Fr. Lit. Pub., 1980**

FOR ALL THIS CHAOS, THE WORK PROCEEDED WITH GREAT SPEED. BY THE END OF NOVEMBER, MOST OF THE BASTILLE WAS DEMOLISHED.

and the ingenuity of the first novelist lay in his understanding that, as the image was the one essential element in the complicated structure of our emotions,

IN 1981 HE WON AN AMERICAN BOOK AWARD FOR ANOTHER NOVEL "PLAINS SONG"...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I changed my mind about everything.

**Georges D. Painter, Proust, the Early Years. 1959/ Proust, the Later Years. 1965**

THE PHYSICAL WORK COMPLETED, PALLOY'S OWN BASTILLE BUSINESS HAD ONLY BEGUN.

so that simplification of it which consisted in the suppression, pure and simple, of "real" people would be a decided improvement.

IN 1985 HE WAS AMONG THE FIRST RECIPIENTS OF THE WHITING WRITERS AWARDS. HE ALSO WON THREE GRANTS FROM THE GUGGENHEIM MEMORIAL FOUNDATION.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to question the cultural truths reflected in patterns of collection, scholarship and display in the privileged spaces of Art. Ha Ha.

**Georges Poulet, Studies in Human Time. Johns Hopkins, 1956**
**Proustian Space, 1977**

SOME OF THIS INVOLVED NEW PROJECTS, ERECTING A PLATFORM FOR A CANNON FROM THE BASTILLE ON THE PONT NEUF, CLEARING OUT THE DITCHES AND MOATS.

A "real" person, profoundly as we may sympathize with him, is in a great measure perceptible only through our senses, that is to say, remains opaque, presents a dead weight which our sensibilities have not the strength to lift.

YET AGAIN AND AGAIN, AS PROF. JOHN W. ALDRIDGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WROTE IN THE TIMES BOOK REVIEW IN 1970,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if we are a joke or not.

**Roger Shattuck, Marcel Proust, 1972/Proust's Binoculars, 1963**

BUT MOST OF PALLOY'S ENERGIES WENT INTO PROMOTING THE CULT OF THE BASTILLE AS A POLITICAL TOURIST ATTRACTION.

If some misfortune comes to him, it is only in one small section of the complete idea we have of him that we are capable of feeling any emotion;

"WRIGHT MORRIS SEEMS TO HAVE BECOME ARRESTED PERMANENTLY ON THE BRINK OF MAJOR REPUTATION".

Honey, I rearranged the collection following Stella's advice: What you see is what you see.

**M.A. Vogely, A Proust Dictionary. Whitson, 1981**

THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO PRODUCE, IN A THEATRICAL SENSE, EVENTS WHICH WOULD RECAPITULATE BOTH THE HORRORS OF THE BASTILLE AND THE EUPHORIA OF ITS FALL SO THAT SUCCESSIVE WAVES OF VISITING PATRIOTS COULD BE RECRUITED FOR REVOLUTIONARY ENTHUSIASM.

Indeed it is only in one small section of the complete idea he has of himself that he is capable of feeling any emotion either.

IF IT BOTHERED MR. MORRIS, HE DIDN'T SEEM TO SHOW IT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't know why we started.

**Seth Wolitz, The Proustian Community. New York, 1971**

AFTER ONE EVENT, 700 WORKERS MADE THEIR WAY IN PROCESSION TO THE HOTEL DE VILLE CARRYING A MODEL OF THE BASTILLE THAT THEY HAD FASHIONED FROM ITS STONES.

The novelist's happy discovery was to think of substituting for those opaque sections, impenetrable to the human soul, their equivalent in immaterial sections, things that is, which one's soul can assimilate.

APRIL 9, 1963
MONDAY AFTERNOON
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection when I first woke up, then just after lunch and again before I went back to bed. One thing led to another and now I don't know what to do!

**TEXTS FOR COLBY POSTERS**

PALLOY TURNED THIS INTO A MAJOR ENTERPRISE AND TOOK CREDIT FOR THE SCHEME.

After which it matters not that the actions, the feelings of this new order of creatures appear to us in the guise of truth, since we have made them our own,

I HOPE YOU ARE IN BETTER SPIRITS BY NOW AND THAT YOU HAVE YOUR CONFIDENCE BACK...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with Peggy Guggenheim in mind. Guess why?

**Self-Control starts here.**

EVENTUALLY, IN ORDER TO BRING INTO THE PATRIOTIC FOLD THE MILLIONS OF FRENCHMEN REMOTE FROM THE ACTUAL EVENT OF THE FALL OF THE BASTILLE, PALLOY PRODUCED 246 CHESTS OF SOUVENIRS, CREATING EVERY CONCEIVABLE KIND OF ITEM FROM THE DEBRIS OF THE BASTILLE.

since it is in ourselves that they are happening, that they are holding in thrall, as we feverishly turn over the pages of the book, our quickened breath and staring eyes.

SINCE IT HAS WARMED UP, I HAVE BEEN PRUNING THE BUSHES IN THE FRONT YARD. THE HEAVY PILES OF SNOW REALLY SMASHED THEM DOWN AND THEY LOOKED TERRIBLE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I prefer a sense of order. Then I can hope for more.

**Opps, the wrong door.**

THE MYTH OF PATRIOTIC UNITY ENSHRINED IN THE CULT OF THE BASTILLE WAS THE NEW GOSPEL AND FOR A WHILE IT WAS ALL HIS.

And once the novelist has brought us to this state, in which, as in all purely mental states, every emotion is multiplied tenfold, into which his book comes to disturb us as might a dream,

I HAVE CUT SO MUCH OLD STUFF OUT THAT THEY LOOK RATHER SCRAGGLY NOW BUT I GUESS IT WON'T TAKE LONG FOR THEM TO COME BACK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if we got our money's worth.

**I am a pretzel.**

ITEM: "I, HARRY HOUDINI, CHALLENGE..." THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IS EASILY BORED.

but a dream more lucid and more abiding than those which come to us in sleep, why then, for the space of an hour he sets free within us all the joys and sorrows in the world,

I DRAGGED ALL THE BRANCHES I CUT OFF BACK TO THE BLACKBERRY PATCH BY THE EX-SHACK, AND WHEN DAD GETS TIME HE CAN BURN THEM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm looking for a good argument.

**What is the problem?**

YET, FOR MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY, FROM THE YEAR 1900 UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1926, HOUDINI'S NAME APPEARED DAY AFTER DAY IN NEWSPAPER HEADLINES THAT MADE HIM THE ENVY OF ALL HIS FELLOW PERFORMERS IN THE WORLD OF VAUDEVILLE.

a few of which only we should have to spend years of our actual life in getting to know, and the most intense of which would never be revealed to us

IT IS CLOUDY AND TRYING TO SPRINKLE A BIT. I DON'T KNOW IF RAIN IS PREDICTED OR NOT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that nothing can take the place of these works. Ever.

**Plus equals minus.**

IN A PERIOD AND COUNTRY OF RAPID TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT, IN A LAND WHERE WHOLE CITIES, GREAT RAILROADS, HUGH INDUSTRIES, SEEMED TO SPRING INTO BEING OVERNIGHT, NO SINGLE MARVEL, HOWEVER IMPRESSIVE, COULD BE GRANTED MORE THAN ITS SHARE OF ATTENTION.

because the slow course of their development prevents us from perceiving them.

WE GOT OUR FIRST PLAIN DEALER THIS MORNING...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to explain that rules are not artworks and collectors are not critics.

I live in a room/I know nothing/I have heard many things.

WHAT WERE HOUDINI'S SECRETS? HOW DID HE SUCCEED IN AMAZING OTHERS SO COMPLETELY FOR SO LONG A TIME?

It is the same in life; the heart changes, and it is our worst sorrow; but we know it only through reading, through our imagination:

SATURDAY NIGHT WE WENT INTO LAKEWOOD AND SPENT THE EVENING WITH GRANDMA AND AUNTIE RUTH...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show everyone I was right about everything every time.

**I'm available now.**

NO PUBLIC PERFORMER CAN SURVIVE WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTICE AND HOUDINI WON THE PUBLIC OF HIS DAY OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

in reality its alteration, like that of certain natural phenomena, is so gradual that, even if we are able to distinguish, successively, each of its different states, we are still spared the actual sensation of change.
Proust, "On Reading"

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON I WENT OVER AND HELPED MARIAN CLEAN AND DUST UP THE HOUSE FOR PAPA AND ALLA. WE DIDN'T EXPECT THEM UNTIL TODAY BUT THEY ARRIVED ABOUT AN HOUR AFTER WE FINISHED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I miss N.Y., Paris, Rome, Berlin, London, Milan and the Cape.

**Dr. Freud and Mr. & Mrs. Key Case.**

HOWEVER, WHEN THE SUBJECT IS A MAN WHOSE LIFE ITSELF BELONGED IN THAT STRANGE LIMBO OF THE IMPROBABLE, THE FIELD OF ENTERTAINMENT, HIS FAME RESISTS ANALYSIS AND GOES BEYOND EVEN HIS OWN HESITANT CLAIMS.

At thirty, Proust was already a deeply eccentric man, and still living at home on an allowance.

I HAD JUST GOTTEN BACK HERE WHEN MRS. POHLE CALLED AND WANTED ME TO GO BOWLING WITH HER. I WAS JUST COMING IN THE DOOR FROM THAT WHEN PAPA CALLED UP...

Honey, I rearranged the collection asking myself the question: who is the founder of Conceptual Art?

**What is Mumbo Jumbo?**

IT WAS HOUDINI'S BUSINESS TO DECEIVE THE PUBLIC BUT WHICH DECEPTION WAS THE MORE REMARKABLE, THE HOUDINI HE WANTED THE PUBLIC TO BELIEVE IN, OR THE HOUDINI HE BELIEVED HE WAS?

His perferred schedule of rising in the late afternoon and going to bed at dawn estranged him from his own family.

AT CHURCH WE HEARD THAT REV. HOLLOWAY HAD HAD A HEART ATTACK AND WAS IN THE HOSPITAL...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let people know contemporary collectors are interesting people too.

**What is the literal translation of "prima facie"?/Is social distinction in the U.S. based mostly on: a. Wealth, b. Birth, c. Cultural Attainments?**

HOUDINI'S MAKE-BELIEVE WAS NOT IMAGINATION. HE WAS HOUDINI AND HE SOLD THE PUBLIC ON THAT SINGLE IDEA.

The events of the next few years came perilously close to paralysing him. His younger brother, a doctor following in their father's footsteps, married in 1903 and set up on his own.

WELL, SINCE THIS LETTER IS FOLLOWING THE OTHER ONE PRETTY CLOSE I GUESS THIS IS ABOUT ALL I CAN THINK OF TO WRITE ABOUT.
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it has to go.

**How Things Came To Be. Part 1**

HE WAS NOT A MAGICIAN IN THE ORDINARY SENSE, CALLING HIMSELF INSTEAD AN "ESCAPE ARTIST". HE WAS MORE THAN JUST A MAN WHO BELIEVED IN HIMSELF. HOUDINI BELIEVED IN HOUDINI.

At the wedding Marcel was a grotesque, semi-invalid figure in several overcoats and mufflers.

APRIL 16, 1963
TUESDAY A.M.
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection or should I say reconfigured or recontextualized or rewrote our cultural products?

**It's Nothing New But...**

SUCCESS WAS THE SINGLE, ALMOST UNVARYING FACTOR IN HIS CAREER, TOGETHER WITH A STUBBORN DETERMINATION WHICH DROVE HIM TO ANY CONCEIVABLE LENGTH TO ACHIEVE THAT SUCCESS.

A few months later their father died, and Madame Proust devoted herself for two years to caring for Proust's asthma and hayfever, and helping him translate Ruskin.

I FELT SO BADLY AFTER TALKING TO YOU LAST NIGHT, I' MOST WISHED WE HADN'T CALLED. I KNOW HOW BADLY YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE HERE AT A TIME LIKE THIS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection emphasizing our modest period. Before we met you know who.

**What More Could I Have Done?**

THE METHODS HE USED WERE VARIOUS, THE TRICKS HE DEVISED AND PRACTICED WERE WITHOUT NUMBER,

She also organized dinners for his friends in their apartment. Then, after a short illness, Madame Proust died in 1905.

I CALLED PAPA THIS MORNING AND TOLD HIM OF OUR CONVERSATION. HE KNOWS HOW MUCH YOU THOUGHT OF ALLA AND HOW SORRY YOU ARE THAT THERE ARE SO MANY MILES BETWEEN US.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by switching the lighting from Irwin to Flavin.

What would you have done?/You be the judge.

AND ALTHOUGH HE NEVER ATTEMPTED TO CLAIM THAT HE HAD INVENTED THE HANDCUFF RELEASE, NOR ANY OF ITS CHAIN OR ROPE-TIE VARIATIONS, HE DID CONTEND THAT HE HAD DEVELOPED THE SO-CALLED CHALLENGE ESCAPE.

Her son lay for almost two months in sleepless seclusion in the apartment, and then spent six weeks in a private clinic.

I AM SO GLAD YOU GOT HOME WHEN YOU DID AND GOT TO SEE THEM ALL ONCE AGAIN.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm tired of Chinese, Egyptian, Bronze Age, Archaic Greek, Cycladic, African, Medieval and Renaissance sculptures.

**Like to be in my place?**

AND THIS WAS WHAT TRULY DEFINED HIM; HIS USE OF THE WORD "CHALLENGE".

After this, his nocturnal and neurotic behavior became more pronounced than ever.
"Marcel Proust" Roger Shattuck

THEY HAD SUCH A WONDERFUL TIME IN FLORIDA, ALLA JUST LOVED THE PLANE TRIP. SHE HAD NEVER FLOWN AND WAS A BIT LEARY OF IT BUT SAID SHE WOULD TELL ALL HER FRIENDS THAT IT SURE WAS THE WAY TO TRAVEL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection hanging only artists who don't criticize. Surprise! No collection.

That's what I thought it was.

ALL OF HOUDINI'S ESCAPES CAN BE ROUGHLY DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS: THE PREPARED ESCAPES AND THE CHALLENGES.

"The bonds between ourselves and another person exist only in our minds.

I THINK I WROTE YOU THAT I WENT UP THERE LAST SUNDAY AND HELPED GET THE HOUSE ALL CLEANED UP FOR THEM AND SHE ONLY WAS THERE FIVE DAYS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by putting all the Flavins together in one room. Now I've lost the Kosuth.

**What good does it do me?**

THE FORMER CAUSED HIM NO DIFFICULTY ONCE HE HAD STEPPED ONTO THE STAGE. THEIR DIFFICULTIES HAD ALL BEEN MET AND OVERCOME BEFOREHAND AND WERE BASICALLY BREAD AND BUTTER WORK.

Memory as it grows fainter loosens them, and notwithstanding the illusion by which we want to be duped

THURSDAY NIGHT THEY WERE DOWN TO THE CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNION SERVICE AND WHEN MARTHA JOINED. THEY HAD A GOOD TIME AFTERWARDS AT THE RECEPTION AND ALLA WAS JUST HER HAPPY SELF.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to prove that Conceptual Art began with Magritte.

**Wonder why I never noticed before?**

HIS CHALLENGE ESCAPES WERE ANOTHER MATTER. A CHALLENGE ESCAPE COULD NOT BE WORKED OUT IN ADVANCE THE WAY A PREPARED ESCAPE COULD BE PLANNED AND REHEARSED BEFORE PRESENTATION.

and with which, out of love, friendship, politeness, deference, duty, we dupe other people, we exist alone.

ABOUT 4 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING SHE GOT VERY SICK-SEEMED LIKE THE FLU, STOMACH PAINS, VOMITING, ETC. THE NEXT MORNING HER TEMPERATURE WAS UP TO 105 AND SHE HAD A PRETTY BAD DAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in a West Coast manner. All Ruscha All the time.

**Why look further? It's all right here.**

HIS SPECTACULAR SUCCESS AT MEETING AND DEFEATING SO MANY HUNDREDS OF THESE CHALLENGES, OF SUCH INFINITE VARIETY, ATTESTS TO NOT ONLY A REMARKABLE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL ABILITY BUT TO SOMETHING LESS TANGIBLE WHICH HOUDINI CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD.

Man is the creature who cannot escape from himself, who knows other people only in himself, and when he asserts the contrary, he is lying".
Proust, "The Fugitive"

THEY GOT A DOCTOR FROM PARMA TO COME AND HE SAID SHE HAD PNEUMONIA.

Honey, I rearranged the collection putting it in alphabetical order according to the artists' initials. A.B. to W.W.

**Let me tell what's wrong.**

ONE OF THE GREATEST PROBLEMS FOR ANY PERFORMER IS THE CONSTANT NECESSITY OF KEEPING HIS ACT NEW AND FRESH, TO PREVENT IT FROM BOGGING DOWN INTO MONOTONY.

"He repeated to himself: "Little patch of yellow wall, with a sloping roof, little patch of yellow wall". Meanwhile he sank down onto a circular settee;

SATURDAY MORNING HER TEMPERATURE HAD DROPPED TO SUB-NORMAL AND THEY GOT HER TO THE HOSPITAL RIGHT AWAY. AFTER SEEING HER, DOCTOR HODGES DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS MUCH CHANCE OF HER PULLING THROUGH.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with nobodies.

**I'm stuck in my time.**

HOUDINI ACHIEVED THIS SUPERBLY WITH HIS APPEAL FOR CHALLENGES. NO SPECTATOR EVER KNEW AHEAD OF TIME EXACTLY WHAT HE WOULD SEE WHEN HOUDINI STEPPED OUT ON THE STAGE.

whereupon he suddenly ceased to think that his life was in jeopardy and, reverting to his natural optimism, told himself: "It's nothing, merely a touch of indigestion from those potatoes, which were under-cooked".

SHE DIED SUNDAY MORNING AT 9:20 WHILE THE FOLKS WERE ON THE WAY IN TO THE HOSPITAL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to get the most out of it.

**I wish I were somewhere else.**

ONE NIGHT HE MIGHT BE TIED IN INTRICATE BONDS OF ROPE, THE NEXT WOULD SEE HIM TWISTING OUT OF TORTUROUS CHAINS AND LEG IRONS, ON THE THIRD HE MIGHT BE NAILED INTO A STURDY PACKING CASE BY VOLUNTEERS INVITED FROM THE AUDIENCE.

A fresh attack struck him down; he rolled from the settee to the floor, as visitors and attendants came hurrying to his assistance. He was dead.

EVERYTHING HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY THAT IT SEEMS IT MUST BE A DREAM AND WE WILL WAKE UP PRETTY SOON BUT I GUESS IT IS SOMETHING THAT HAS TO BE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection again because I was anxious again.

**Blood on the moon/Violence in the mouth.**

"HE CAN'T GET OUT OF THIS BOX. I MADE IT MYSELF OF THE TOUGHEST WOOD AND THE STRONGEST NAILS I COULD FIND. THERE'S NO WAY FOR HIM TO GET OUT, ONCE THE LID'S NAILED DOWN."

Dead forever? Who can say? Certainly, experiments in spiritualism offer us no more proof than the dogmas of religion that the soul survives death.

PAPA IS REAL GOOD AND I GUESS WILL STAY ON THERE FOR A WHILE TO TAKE CARE OF THINGS. EVENTUALLY HE WILL PROBABLY COME HERE WITH US. THE FUNERAL IS TOMORROW AT THE CHURCH.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because sometimes artists bug me. One came to the door yesterday completely unannounced.

**For the man who sits alone.**

HIS PUBLIC WAS NOT A MASTER DEMANDING NEW TRICKS AT EVERY PERFORMANCE; IT WAS HIS MOST EAGER ASSISTANT, DAILY PROVIDING THE MATERIAL FOR ITS OWN DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT.

All that we can say is that everything is arranged in this life as though we entered it carrying a burden of obligations contracted in a former life;

GINGE IS GETTING IN AT 5:45 TOMORROW MORNING SO WE WILL MEET HER AT THE AIRPORT. SHE PLANS TO STAY UNTIL SUNDAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because Walter Hopps told me to.

When in doubt, go to the movies.

THE LOCAL PEOPLE WHO ATTENDED THE PERFORMANCES WERE SOLD, BECAUSE OF A VERY HUMAN LOVE OF PERSONAL PUBLICITY, A CHALLENGE NOT ONLY TO THEIR OWN PRIDE OF KNOWLEDGE AND WORKMANSHIP BUT AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE PERFORMANCE ITSELF.

there is no reason inherent in the conditions of life on this earth that can make us consider ourselves obliged to do good, to be kind and thoughtful, even to be polite,

I AM SORRY YOUR LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AREN'T WORKING OUT SO GOOD. DON'T YOU THINK YOU CAN STICK IT OUT UNTIL THIS TERM IS UP THEN START NEW IN THE FALL?...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the locations of all the old galleries in Los Angeles when they were all on La Cienega. Remember Ester Robles?

**The Elvis Presley Story by A.R.**

THEY COULD THEN TAKE FOR THEMSELVES THE DELIGHT ALL HUMAN BEINGS TAKE IN AMAZING OTHERS AND IN BEING AMAZED THEMSELVES AND FEEL COMPLETELY THE COURAGE AND INDEPENDANCE THAT CANNOT BE BOUND BY ANY FETTERS THE WORLD HAS TO OFFER.

nor for an atheist artist to consider himself obliged to begin over again a score of times a piece of work that admiration aroused but which will matter little to his worm-eaten body,

IT IS TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T GET TO GO OUT OF THE CITY DURING YOUR VACATION...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to who bought it. You or me.

**Entertainment 24 hours a day.**

A TRICK
THE DICTIONARY DEFINES METAMORPHOSIS AS "A CHANGE OF PHYSICAL FORM OR SUBSTANCE".

like the patch of yellow wall painted with so much skill and refinement by an artist destined to be forever unknown and barely identified under the name Vermeer.

I'LL LET DAD FINISH THIS. I HAVE TO GET READY TO GO DOWN TO THE FUNERAL HOME THIS AFTERNOON. I'VE ALREADY HAD ASPIRIN AND GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TAKE SOME MORE BEFORE I GO. IT'S HARD TO TALK TO FOLKS WHEN YOU FEEL SO BAD.
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are more than just eccentrics.

**Continue with the Submerged Poetry series—that which underlays all appearances.**

"METAMORPHOSIS, THE GREAT TRUNK MYSTERY" WAS A TRICK BOX THAT HOUDINI HAD PURCHASED AT THE BEGINNING OF HIS CAREER FROM A DOWN AND OUT MAGICIAN.

All these obligations, which have no sanction in our present life, seem to belong to a different world, a world based on kindness, scrupulousness, self-sacrifice,

WEDNESDAY A.M. 4/17

DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to correct the relationship between Harvard and Choate, Chuckle, Chuckle.

**Who's afraid of anything now?**

THE TRUNK TRICK WAS AN OLD ONE BUT WITH HOUDINI'S SKILL AND A GRANDILOQUENT TITLE, "METAMORPHOSIS", IT BECAME NOT ONLY AN EFFECTIVE ILLUSION BUT ALSO AN EFFECTIVE SYMBOL,

a world entirely different than this one and which we leave in order to be born on this earth, before perhaps returning there to live once again

WE HAVE BEEN TO THE AIRPORT, BEA WRIGHT WENT OVER WITH US, PICKED HER UP AT 5:05 AND HAD BREAKFAST. GOT BACK HERE IN TIME TO SEE MARTHA OFF TO SCHOOL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't like to be contradicted by lawyers.

**Evening time is reading time.**

BOTH OF WHICH WERE TO SERVE HIM HIS ENTIRE LIFE, FROM THE MIDWAY DIME MUSEUMS TO THE FULL EVENINGS OF MAGIC WHICH WERE THE PINNACLE OF HOUDINI'S AMBITIONS.

beneath the sway of those unknown laws which we obeyed because we bore their precepts in our hearts, not knowing whose hand traced them there,

I AM NOT GOING TO WORK TODAY SO WILL BE AROUND TO ACT AS CHAUFFEUR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind everyone that the original definition of a curator was: "A guardian of a minor, lunatic; a person who has a cure of souls".

**The story is more important than the paper it's printed on.**

THE TRICK HAD DRAMA AND SURPRISE AND, IN ITS MOST POLISHED INCARNATION WHICH HE PERFORMED WITH HIS WIFE BESSIE, THE TRANSFORMATION WAS PERFORMED WITH SUCH SPEED AS TO SEEM TRULY UNBELIEVABLE AND BEYOND EXPLANATION.

those laws to which every profound work of the intellect brings us nearer and which are invisible only—if then! to fools.

AT 10:30 I AM GOING TO TAKE VIRGINIA AND BE DOWN TO THE FUNERAL PARLOR BECAUSE THAT IS THE LAST CHANCE TO VIEW THE BODY, THE CASKET WILL BE CLOSED WHEN TAKEN TO THE CHURCH.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I am the expert. Period. End of story.

**Now What! Why? How?**

FIRST THEIR EQUIPMENT WOULD BE INSPECTED BY A COMMITTEE FROM THE AUDIENCE;

"So that the idea that Bergotte was not permanently dead is by no means improbable.

THE FUNERAL IS AT 2 P.M.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to really look at the things we are always talking about.

I need advice.

HARRY'S HANDS WOULD THEN BE TIED BEHIND HIS BACK; HE WOULD BE LIFTED INTO A LARGE SACK, THE MOUTH OF WHICH WOULD BE DRAWN TOGETHER, KNOTTED AND SEALED OVER HIS HEAD;

They buried him, but all through that night of mourning,

"PAPA" IS HOLDING UP GOOD BUT AFTER STANDING ALL AFTERNOON, AND AGAIN ALL EVENING, AT THE PARLOR HE WAS VERY TIRED WHEN WE TOOK HIM HOME LAST NIGHT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection for lack of anything better to do. I'm sick of going to CHELSEA already.

**To hell with tomorrow old fool.**

AND THE SACK WOULD BE PUT INTO THE TRUNK WHICH IN TURN WOULD BE LOCKED ROPED AND SEALED.

in the lighted shop-windows, his books, arranged three by three, kept vigil like angels with outspread wings and seemed, for him who was no more, the symbol of his resurrection".
Proust, "The Captive"

ALLEN, THE PRESENT CONDITIONS OF THINGS HAVE US QUITE CONCERNED...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to determine if we have the same goals anymore—you and me, I mean, not the artists.

**Did you see Back to the Future?**

THE COMMITTEE WOULD STAND ASIDE AT THAT MOMENT, AND BESSIE WOULD TAKE HER PLACE BETWEEN THE CURTAINS, HOLDING ONE IN EACH HAND. "LADIES AND GENTLEMAN", SHE WOULD SAY, SPACING THE WORDS CLEARLY AND DISTINCTLY AS HOUDINI HAD REHEARSED HER.

"Days in the past cover up little by little those that preceded them and are themselves buried beneath those that follow them.

APRIL 20, 1963
SATURDAY A.M. 7:15
DEAR ALLEN

Honey, I rearranged the collection to announce for the umpteenth time that there is a Grand Canyon of difference between art and money.

**What are you looking at?**

"YOU SEE THE LOCKED AND ROPED TRUNK INTO WHICH HOUDINI HAS BEEN PLACED WITH HIS WRISTS SECURELY BOUND BEHIND HIS BACK, HIS ENTIRE BODY SEALED WITHIN THE SACK, AND THE SACK LOCKED WITHIN THE TRUNK, HE ON THE INSIDE, I ON THE OUTSIDE".

But each past day has remained deposited in us, as in a vast library where, even of the oldest books, there is a copy which doubtless nobody will ever ask to see.

AT YOUR REQUEST, AND MUCH AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT, I AM SENDING THE $115.00 NOW...

Honey, I rearranged the collection around my new theme: Master and Slave. How many Masters do we have and how do the Slaves support them?

**You say it is, but is it?**

SLOWLY SHE WOULD BEGIN TO DRAW THE CURTAINS TOGETHER. "I SHALL CLAP MY HANDS THREE TIMES AND YOU WATCH THE EFFECT."

An yet should this day from the past, traversing the translucency of the interbening epochs, rise to the surface and spread itself inside us until it cobers us entirely,

PLEASE DO NOT TRY TO ARRANGE FINANCIAL THINGS WITH MOM, UNLESS I AM NOT AT HOME TO TALK TO, BECAUSE SHE DOES NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE CHECKING ACCOUNT, ETC.

Honey, I rearranged the collection after I returned from Marfa, Texas, last week. When you go, you'll know.

**Mr. & Mrs. Key Case**
**Blood on the moon/Violence in the mouth.**

ONE-TWO-THREE! SHE BROUGHT HER SMALL HANDS TOGETHER IN SHARP CLAPS, AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE THIRD ONE, SHE DREW THE CURTAINS CLOSED IN FRONT OF HERSELF WITH A FLOURISH.

then for a moment names resume their former meaning, people their former aspect, we ourselves our state of mind at the time, and we feel, with a vague suffering

IT IS TOO BAD YOU COULD NOT HAVE STUCK IT OUT FOR ANOTHER SIX WEEKS BUT NOW THAT YOU HAVE MADE YOUR MOVE I HOPE YOU WILL BE HAPPIER... GOOD LUCK!
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by putting it all in storage. What do you think about that?

**For the man sits alone.**

ALMOST INSTANTLY THEY WERE FLUNG WIDE AGAIN, AND HOUDINI WOULD BE BOWING TO THE AUDIENCE, HIS HANDS FREE, THE COAT OF HIS DRESS SUIT MYSTERIOUSLY MISSING.

which however is endurable and will not last for long, the problems which have long ago... caused us such anguish at the time." Marcel Proust, "The Fugitive"

APRIL 25, 1963
WED. A.M.
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection by selecting only New York Conceptual work from group exhibitions before 1970, with the artist having been shown uptown first.

**When in doubt, go to the movies.**

BESSIE WOULD OF COURSE THEREAFTER BE DISCOVERED INSIDE THE BAG, INSIDE THE TRUNK, HER HANDS BOUND BY THE ORIGINAL ROPES AND WEARING HOUDINI'S COAT. THE FIRST PRISONER HAD BEEN "METAMORPHOSED" INTO THE SECOND.

"The classic philosopher assumes that "our personality is built about a hard and changeless core, is a sort of spiritual statue" which stands like a rock against the assaults of the external world.

...LAST WEEK REALLY WAS A HECTIC ONE. I HAD A BUNCH OF STUFF PLANNED THAT I HAD TO CANCEL AND WE SPENT TUESDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING, MONDAY EVENING, TOO, AT THE FUNERAL PARLOR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if I can figure out what the hell Monochrome Painting is.

**THE VITAL LINE**
**REMAINDERS: NOVEL, SCULPTURE, FILM**
**Publishers Press Release 1991**

THE SECRET
PRISONERS, CHAINS, LOCKS AND KEYS, JAIL CELLS, STRAIGHT-JACKETS, CHALLENGES, PEOPLE, AUDIENCE, AUTHORITY, RESTRAINT, CONFINEMENT, SELF, SPIRIT, SECRETS, CHANGE, ETC.

Such is man as viewed by Plutarch, by Molière, and even by Balzac. But Proust shows us that the individual, plunged in Time, disintegrates.

YOU NEVER SAW SO MANY PEOPLE AS WAS THERE TUESDAY NIGHT. YOU COULD HARDLY MOVE; IT WAS A STEADY STREAM FROM 7 TO 9. THE SERVICE WAS AT THE CHURCH WHICH WE ALL THOUGHT WAS NICE. ALLA HAD REQUESTED IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection putting up all the "Works on Paper" or what we used to call drawings.

**Published in an edition of 12 plus 4 artist's proofs, the REMAINDERS multiple consists of a table, 128 hard-bound, dust-jacketed books (8 of each title, 16 different titles in all) packed in 5 boxes,**

THE MATCHING HERE OF PALLOY AND HOUDINI IS NOT A "MATCHED PAIR" BUT MORE OF A COUPLER - IN POST-STRUCTURALIST TERMS [LANGUAGE NOT AS TWO SIDES OF ONE SHEET OF PAPER (SIGNIFIER/SIGNIFIED) BUT "A PERSON OR THING THAT COUPLES OR LINKS TOGETHER"].

The day comes when nothing at all remains of the man who once loved, who once made a revolution. "My life, as I saw it", wrote Marcel,

SINCE MR. HOLLOWAY IS IN THE HOSPITAL HIMSELF, WITH A HEART ATTACK, MR. MCDANIEL HAD TO TAKE THE SERVICE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with works from dealers who have never used the phrase "out in the boonies".

with one engraved bookmark signed and numbered by the artist. No other element of **REMAINDERS** is signed.

ONE HAS A TRACE OF THE OTHER IN IT; THAT IS WHAT LINKS THEM TOGETHER.

"presented me with the spectacle of a succession of periods, so occuring that, but for a brief space of time nothing of that which had been the sustaining force of one

WE GOT GINGE WED. MORNING AT 5:45, LEFT HERE AT 5. AUNTIE BEA WENT ALONG WITH US AS SHE SAID IT MIGHT BE THE ONLY TIME SHE WOULD HAVE TO REALLY TALK WITH GINGE. SHE STOPPED HERE AND THEN WE ALL HAD BREAKFAST.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to reveal to you that in the end, I should have been a dealer.

**As conceived by the artist, REMAINDERS exists and is to be read simultaneously as a novel, a sculpture and a film.**

HOUDINI AND PALLOY ARE EACH AN EXAMPLE IF SOMETHING CONTAINED IN THE OTHER. EACH IN THE SAME MANNER.

continued to exist at all in that which followed it. I saw human life as a complex from which the support of an individual, identical, and permanent Self was so conspicuously absent,

AFTER THE SERVICE MANY OF RELATIVES WENT TO THE HOUSE. THE LARKS HAD BROUGHT IN FOOD AND THERE WERE 60 WHO HAD SUPPER THERE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with a selection of nobodies. So much for the "late bloomer" idea.

The viewer is presented with a table piled high with books, the scene that of a remainders table at a discount bookstore. There are sixteen titles on display, each jacketed with a collage of type and images designed by Ruppersberg.

HOUDINI MADE AN ELEPHANT DISAPPEAR IN AN INSTANT; PALLOY MADE A "WHITE ELEPHANT" DISAPPEAR PIECE BY PIECE.

was something so useless for the future, so far extended into the past, that death might just as well intervene at this point or that,

DAD TOOK GINGE OVER TO OUR HOUSE ABOUT 5 AS SHE WAS GETTING PRETTY TIRED NOT HAVING MUCH SLEEP COMING ON THE PLANE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection only with International Artists who have promised to give us their old passports. That way we can match dates in the passports with the shows we have work from.

**Source material for these jackets were culled by the artist from various posters, photographs, artworks, greeting cards, calendar art, advertising images and newspapers in the artist's collection, and combined in such a way as to relate to and comment on the "text" they surround.**

WHAT THEN IS THIS MYSTIFICATION WHICH TRANSFORMS CULTURE INTO UNIVERSAL NATURE?

because it could neber mark a conclusion that was other than arbitary, like those courses of French history, so prebalent in schools,

I STAYED AND AFTER MOST OF THE PEOPLE LEFT, MARIAN, BEA, MABLE, CHARLOTTE AND I SIGNED THE "THANK YOU" NOTES TO SEND FOR THE FLOWERS. SOME PEOPLE SENT GIFTS TO THE CHURCH IN PLACE OF FLOWERS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection around significant dates in the art world. The opening of the 420 Building in 1971, for instance, where we met Barry Le Va for the first time.

**Running throughout all 16 books, masquerading as jacket copy, across front covers, back covers and flaps, is the complete film script in screenplay format for the film LSD-25 (chapter/book XV).**

WHAT EXACTLY IS THE CHARACTER OF THE TRANSFORMATION THAT TAKES PLACE WHEN A MEDAL MADE FROM THE CHAINS OF A FORMER PRISONER IS SOLD TO A CITIZEN WHO THEN BECOMES A PATRIOT?

where the process may be held to have ended, according to the whim of the syllabus or the fancy of the professor, with the Revolution of 1830, the Revolution of 1848, or the end of the Second Empire..."

THE NEXT DAY GINGE AND I WENT OVER THERE AND HELPED PAPA GET HIS THINGS ALL TOGETHER IN ONE BEDROOM...

Honey, I rearranged the collection looking to see why we didn't do better with photography.

**This copy becomes the script/screenplay for the actual contents of these books, a series of film stills which, when read in sequence, produce the film to which the tittle refers.**

"IT WAS A TRICK", HOUDINI WOULD SAY. "I DID IT BY PURELY PHYSICAL MEANS".

"Proust, Portrait of a Genius", André Maurois

MRS. RICHMONT CALLED THIS MORNING TO TELL ME ABOUT BILL BUT GORDON HAD ALREADY TOLD ME THE NEWS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to prove to myself that art is indeed not entertainment.

**The "text" for the books is taken from the artist's archives of 2500 industrial and educational films dating from 1931 to 1967; a total of 32 different stills from 17 different films were selected.**

AFTER "METAMORPHOSIS, THE GREAT TRUNK MYSTERY" HAD BEEN PERFORMED NOBODY EVER EXAMINED THE BAG AND NOTICED THAT IT HAD BEEN SLIT OPEN AT THE BOTTOM; NOBODY EVER FOUND THE CONCEALED ESCAPE PANEL IN THE TRUNK.

"...there were many from whom I had been able to assimilate a single phrase or look although as individual human beings I had no recollection of them;

SPOT IS ACTING KINDA BAD THESE DAYS-RUNNING OFF WHENEVER WE LET HIM OUT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to eliminate all "video art" except for Bruce Nauman and Bruce Conner.

**The 32 stills were edited to form 16 different short "film chapters", each composed in film time (24 frames/pages equal 1 second of film action), and each representing a different film editing technique: montage, dissolve, jump cuts, long shots, short shots, etc.**

THE SECRET, THEN, IS IN THE EXAMPLES AND THE EXAMPLES OF THE EXAMPLES. TRANSFORMATION, DEAR FRIENDS, IS THE SCIENCE OF ILLUSION AND MAGIC.

a book is a huge cemetery in which on the majority of the tombs the names are effaced and can no longer be read". Marcel Proust, "Time Regained"

KENNY EDWARDS AND NORM ARNOLD WERE IN A BAD ACCIDENT LAST SATURDAY NIGHT. THEIR CAR TURNED OVER ON THE CURVE ON MILL RD. JUST PAST THE SCHOOL GOING TOWARD WALLINGS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection just to be able to say au revoir and good luck.

**Each book opens with a still taken from the film of the corresponding chapter title as listed in the Table of Contents (the corresponding "film chapter" title also appears on the jacket spine of the corresponding book).**

ITEM: LOS ANGELES TIMES, SEPTEMBER 9, 1989. ACREAGE IN CANYON ONCE OWNED BY HOUDINI. AVAILABLE FOR $2.5 MILLION IS $3^1/_2$ ACRES IN THE LAUREL CANYON SECTION OF THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS.

"This work of the artist, this struggle to discern beneath matter, beneath experience, beneath words, something that is different from them,

THERE HAD BEEN AN ACCIDENT THERE AT THE SAME CURVE THAT MORNING AND A PERSON WAS KILLED. THE STORY IS THAT THE BOYS WERE TRYING TO PROVE THAT YOU COULD TAKE THAT CURVE AT 50 WITHOUT TURNING OVER AS THE FIRST CAR DID.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only artists who have no "buzz" and are not "on the radar screen". P.U. Go Away!

**That still image becomes the signature motif for that book's "film text". Still images from the other 16 "film chapters" are then edited with the signature image to form the content of that particular "film chapter".**

THE HOUSE OF THE SECLUDED ESTATE, ONCE OWNED BY HARRY HOUDINI, WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE IN 1959 AND DEMOLISHED THEREAFTER.

is a process exactly the reverse of that which, in those everyday lives which we live with our gaze averted from ourself,

BOTH CARS WERE SMALL CARS, VOLKS OR SIMILAR MAKES. THERE WAS ANOTHER BOY WITH THEM, AN INDIAN WHO WORKS AT THE RED BRICK STORE AT THE CENTER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I have seen God.

**Each "film chapter" is of a different page count which establishes the thickness or "weight" of each book.**

STILL REMAINING ARE THE BRICK AND CONCRETE STAIRS AND WALKWAYS, CONCRETE PILLARS, A STONE AND BRICK BRIDGE, A CAVE, A WATERFALL AND THE LANDSCAPE ACREAGE.

is at every moment being accomplished by vanity and passion and the intellect, and habit too,

ALL THREE WERE BADLY HURT, NORM, THE WORST. HE HAS OVER 100 STITCHES ON HIS FACE AND SCALP AND MAY HAVE TO HAVE PLASTIC SURGERY. I JUST CALLED MRS. EDWARDS, THOUGHT I MIGHT AS WELL GET IT STRAIGHT WHILE I WAS TELLING YOU.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only artists whose work never changes but who never completely go away either.

**As the viewer examines the piece, he/she watches the Text, reads the Film, and connects the titles with the Text images and script, thus developing the Novel.**

THERE IS A ONE BEDROOM, ONE BATH SERVANTS' QUARTERS ON THE PROPERTY, WHICH IS SET BACK FROM THE STREET. FOR MORE DETAILS, CALL MERRILL LYNCH REALTY.

when they smother our true impressions, so as entirely to conceal them from us, beneath a whole heap of verbal concepts and practical goals which we falsely call life.

WHAT I SAID WAS CORRECT. KENNY ALSO INJURED BOTH KNEES, TOOK ALL THE SKIN OFF THEM AND THE DOCTORS COULDN'T PULL ENOUGH BACK ON THEM TO COVER SO HAD TO GRAPH SKIN FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE BODY ON THEM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection myself, because, if you remember, I planned to be a doctor at one time.

**Ultimately, all this is achieved only if the viewer handles the Sculpture.**

GENEROUS THANKS TO:
CITIZENS, A CHRONICLE OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION BY SIMON SCHAMA
THE GREAT HOUDINI BY BERYL WILLIAMS AND SAMUEL EPSTEIN
CHRISTINE BURGIN

In short, this art which is so complicated is in fact the only living art.

THE BONES ARE NOT HURT BUT IT WILL BE VERY PAINFUL WHEN HE STARTS TO WALK. HE ALSO HAS PLASTIC SURGERY ON HIS RIGHT EAR. NORM DID TOO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by myself, seeing that no one takes me seriously anymore anyway.

**The artist's presence is personified vis à vis the location of the bookmark as it follows or marks where the viewer happens to be during or after each examination of the piece.**

THIS TEXT IS CONTAINED IN A SMALL BOOKLET TITLED METAMORPHOSIS: PATRIOTE PALLOY AND HARRY HOUDINI. IT WAS WRITTEN AS PART OF A MULTIPLE THAT WAS PRODUCED IN 1992.

It alone expresses for others and renders visible to ourselves that life of ours which cannot effectually observe itself

THE OTHER BOY APPARENTLY WAS THROWN HARD AGAINST THE PAVEMENT AND HE HAS CHEST INJURIES AND A CONCUSSION; ALSO A COUPLE OF BROKEN RIBS. HE IS ON THE CRITICAL LIST.

Honey, I rearranged the collection since I detest physical exercise.

**The story told by REMAINDERS is summarized by the artist: "REMAINDERS is an aleatory novel in 16 chapters. From "Tiny Water Animals" 1931, to "Road Signs on a Merry-Go-Round" 1967, REMAINDERS unreels the inbetween period of America before and after World War II.**

THE MULTIPLE CAME IN A SMALL CARDBOARD BOX WHICH WAS SEALED WITH A STICKER MADE FROM A PHOTO OF HOUDINI'S FACE.

and of which observable manifestations need to be translated and, often, to be read backwards and laboriously deciphered.

MRS. EDWARDS JUST CAME HOME FROM A FOUR-WEEK STAY AT THE HOSPITAL HERSELF, ON FRIDAY!

Honey, I rearranged the collection in the "French Manner", if you know what I mean.

**Using old educational films, it opens with an impressionistic view of the natural world and life in a drop of water and closes with events rooted in the Vietnam War.**

INSIDE THE BOX, WHICH WAS FILLED WITH SHREDDED PAPER, WAS A ROCK OR PIECE OF CONCRETE WHICH WAS TAKEN FROM HOUDINI'S FORMER PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES AD. ALSO INCLUDED WAS A SNAPSHOT I HAD TAKEN OF THE PROPERTY. IT WAS AN EDITION OF 50.

Our vanity, our passions, our spirit of imitation, our abstract intelligence, our habits have long been at work, and it is the task of art to undo this work of theirs,

DAD WENT TO ELYRIA TODAY AND DIDN'T GO BACK TO THE OFFICE SO JUST CAME HOME...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by removing it.
We don't need art where we're going.

**What in the past was seen in the dark, now reveals the true night that was present all along.**

SINGLES AND DOUBLES
WHAT'S MISSING? 1994

making us travel back in the direction from which we have come to the depths where what has really existed lies unknown within us".
Marcel Proust, "Time Regained"

OVER IN BRECKSVILLE THERE ARE A LARGE NUMBER OF DIRECT DESCENDANTS OF THE VILLAGE'S FIRST SETTLERS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection looking for the Process Art.

**This hybrid of the Novel, Sculpture and Film tells of the idealization and erosion of American life that quickly passed before a generation that could touch both ends".**

"EITHER WAY ONE WAS FOR IT. TO STAY OR TO MAKE A MOVE, IT CAME TO MUCH THE SAME; THERE WAS NO WAY OUT". 4

Three Marcel

HARDLEY R. BOURNE, PROPRIETOR OF BOURNE'S CONFECTIONERY, IS THE GRANDSON OF LEMUEL BOURNE, WHOSE LOG CABIN WAS THE SECOND DWELLING HOUSE IN THE TOWNSHIP,

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only generous artists. No I am the only one types.

**A quote from Stéphane Mallarmé prefaces each book: "A book neither begins nor ends: at most, it pretends".**

ONE PLUS ONE EQUALS ONE
THE CASE OF MRS. M.

Marcel Broodthaers died on his fifty-second birthday, the 28th of January, 1976 in Cologne. He was born in Brussels in 1924.

TWO AND ONE HALF MILES SOUTH OF THE CENTER ON WHAT IS NOW KNOWN AS THE W.U. NOBLE FARM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by integrating miscellaneous artists back into their historical backgrounds.

**The REMAINDERS multiple is an attempt to merge the physical object, the book, with its own text. To have the inner mirror the outer in one work.**

I Am And I Am Not
The Case of Mrs. N.

"Fiction enables us to grasp reality and at the same time that which is veiled by reality". Marcel Broodthaers

IN 1848 THE LEMUEL BOURNES MOVED TO A FARM A MILE NEARER THE CENTER AND HERE THEIR SON RAWSON, AND HIS WIFE, LOUISA ALGER, LIVED ALL THEIR LIVES. SIX CHILDREN WERE BORN TO THEM, THE YOUNGEST, HARLEY, IN 1880.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because an artist I won't mention is bringing his class tomorrow.

**REMAINDERS** is a multiple within a category of objects which is already a multiple, rather than a unique object produced as a limited edition of copies.

THE SOLID GHOST
THE CASE OF PETER

"Everything leads us to believe that there exists a state of mind where life and death, the real and the imaginary,

IN 1897 HARLEY GRADUATED FROM BRECKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, THEN ATTENDED OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY AT ADA THE FOLLOWING YEAR, AFTER WHICH HE TAUGHT SCHOOL ON RICHFIELD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in the spirit of '68. Beginning with Broodthaers.

**REMAINDERS** refers not only to the physical object known as the remaindered book, but also to the remaindered information inside all these leftovers

THE EVERLASTING VANISHING
THE CASE OF MR. R.

the past and the future, the communicable and the incommunicable, high and low, no longer seem contradictory.

IN THE SPRING OF 1899 HARLEY AND HIS BROTHER, WILL, LEFT HOME TO TAKE A WESTERN TRIP BY BICYCLE. THEIR DESTINATION WAS ROSEBURG, OREGON, WHERE COUSINS OF THE FAMILY LIVED ON A RANCH.

Honey, I rearranged the collection after the Beatles and Charlie Manson. Helter Skelter, baby, Helter Skelter.

and to the categories and ideas accumulating, at the end of the century, in a hugh index whose sources, reasons and results are fast receding and blending together.

DUPLICITY, DIVISION, DOUBT, IMITATION, COINCIDENCE, UNCERTAINTY, CONFUSION, REITERATION, COPYING, NARCISSUS, THE FAILURE OF SELF, ECHO, IRONY, DELIRIUMS,

I hope I have nothing in common with that state of mind". M.B.

THE BOYS WERE TWO MONTHS AND A HALF ON THE ROAD, ARRIVING AT THE END OF THE TRAIL AUGUST 20.

Honey, I rearranged the collection imagining a scenario where we become very, very, very famous.

**The triangular structure established for the entire work by the title "Novel, Sculpture, Film", is repeated in the structure for each chapter.**

IMPASSES, MIRROR, ORPHAN, CHOICE OR CHANCE? SAD OR LAUGHING RABBITS, BALANCE, IMPOSSIBLE, BOUND TO BE FREE, IMPOSSIBILITIES, POND, SHADOW, SQUARE BALLS, X-CHANGE, TWILIGHT, LINKED.

Marcel Broodthaers Peintre et Écrivain est Mort

SAYS MR. BOURNE, "THERE WERE NO PAVED ROADS IN THOSE DAYS. IN SOME PLACES THE SANDS WERE PRETTY DEEP AND THE BLACK MUD ROADS OF IOWA WERE TERRIBLE. WE WERE TEN DAYS CROSSING THAT STATE".

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the rules and you know what they are.

**Each chapter is read according to the relationship established between:**
**A. The title of the film which is identified in the Table of Contents and is seen again on the individual title page of each book and on the spine of the dust jacket.**

NOTES
FOOTNOTES
INDEX

Le peintre et écrivain belge Marcel Broodthaers né à Bruxelles, mais résidant depuis 1969 en République fédérale allemande, est décédé à Cologne, à l'âge de cinquante-deux ans.

"THE UPGRADE IN THE MOUNTAINS BROUGHT US SOME STIFF RIDING BUT IT WAS LOTS OF FUN COASTING DOWN".

Honey, I rearranged the collection keeping the 3 B's in mind. Baudelaire, Broodthaers and Beuys.

**B. The image selected from the film to represent that chapter and which is then seen as the first image to appear in the "text" of each book and is usually the predominant image throughout.**

REFERENCES
REFERENCE TO CASES
LIST OF BOOKS AND PAPERS REFERRED TO IN THE TEXT
ELEMENTS OF THE CASE HISTORY.

Marcel Broodthaers n'était pas seulement peintre et sculpteur, mais aussi écrivain et cinéaste.

THE BOYS SPENT SEVERAL DAYS VIEWING THE SIGHTS OF CHICAGO, AND ONE DAY ON THE MISSISSIPPI WITH A ROW BOAT, ROWING UPSTREAM IN THE QUIET WATER NEAR THE BANK AND THEN COMING BACK IN THE SWIFT CURRENT OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RIVER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and left.

**C. The fictional title, author and illustration design of the dust jacket. These three "contexts" form the structure for the reading of the novel embedded within.**

"EITHER WAY ONE WAS FOR IT. TO STAY OR TO MAKE A MOVE IT CAME TO MUCH THE SAME; THERE WAS NO WAY OUT". 4

Il avait exposé notamment au musée d'Art Moderne de Paris, au Palais des Beaux-Arts de Bruxelles, à la Galerie nationale de Berlin et au Musée d'art de Bâle.

WHEN THEY ARRIVED IN OMAHA THEY SPENT FIVE DAYS LOOKING FOR WORK. THEY FOUND PEOPLE ON THE RANCHES VERY HOSPITABLE, AND SLEEPING IN THE BUNKHOUSES AND LISTENING TO THE YARNS SPUN BY COWBOYS WAS VERY THRILLING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection remembering the glorious 40's. Duchamp in Paris, Sidney Janis, Pollock and Rothko in their studios. WOW!

**REMAINDERS**
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

DUALITY IS A WORD WHICH REFERS BOTH TO THE FACTS OF A HUMAN INSTABILITY AND UNCERTAINTY, AND TO THE UNCERTAIN COMPREHENSION OF THESE FACTS. 12

C'était un créateur d'avant-garde, héritier du mouvement Surréaliste, très attentif à l'aventure des idées d'avant-garde,

AT HUNTINGTON, OREGON, THEIR BICYCLES WERE STOLEN. TEN DAYS LATER AUTHORITIES RECOVERED THE VEHICLES AND SENT THE THIEVES TO THE WORKHOUSE. DURING THEIR ENFORCED STOPOVER, THE BOYS WORKED ON A RANCH STACKING HAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection thinking I can do no wrong. You agree?

**BOOK ONE** Tiny Water Animals 1931

IT IS A SUBJECT WHICH STRETCHES BEYOND LITERATURE AND AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS A SUBJECT WHICH IS LITERATURE. 14

et qui défendait avec une verve souvent percutante l'orthodoxie du Surréalisme historique.

FINALLY REACHING THEIR COUSIN'S RANCH IN SOUTHERN OREGON, THEY RECEIVED A HEARTY WELCOME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in the form of a suicide note. Just kidding.

**BOOK TWO Catalysis 1937**

DERRIDA'S EITHER/OR IS A BOTH, AND IT HAS ITS PLACE IN THE LONG HISTORY OF DUALITY. 21

Poête et pamphlétaire, en même temps que créateur de "climats" nouveaux dans l'art moderne, Marcel Broodthaers laisse le souvenir d'un homme passionné et inspiré.

AFTER SPENDING THE WINTER THERE TEACHING SCHOOL AND RANCHING, HARLEY RETURNED TO OHIO, BUYING A RAILROAD TICKET THAT WOULD TAKE HIM AS FAR AS POSSIBLE FOR HIS MONEY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection around the idea that the works don't really belong to us. We are only keeping them for a while.

**BOOK THREE** Simple Machines 1941

"TO BE ONE WE MUST BE TWO" MILTON

Nul doute que, dans l'avenir, son œuvre n'apparaisse comme une intervention déterminante dans la connaissance des préoccupations d'une génération héritière de Magritte

HE WENT DOWN TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, THEN, VIA THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC ALONG THE RIO GRANDE RIVER TO NEW ORLEANS AND MOBILE, ALABAMA, AND SO HOME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in memory of Pat Hearn.

**BOOK FOUR A Better Tomorrow 1945**

THE DIFFERENCE WITHIN THE SAME AND THE SAME WITHIN A DIFFERENCE ARE THE MOTIVES OF MEANING. 5

et qui a débordé largement les sollicitations du Pop Art.

TWO YEARS LATER HE WENT TO MANSFIELD WHERE HE WAS WITH A FARM IMPLEMENT MANUFACTURING COMPANY FOR THREE YEARS, AND LATER WITH A WHOLESALE GROCERY NINE YEARS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because, if nothing else, we still have our favorites.

**BOOK FIVE** Seeds Of Destiny 1947

12. THE DOUBLE STANDS AT THE START OF THAT CULTIVATION OF UNCERTAINTY BY WHICH THE LITERATURE OF THE MODERN WORLD HAS COME TO BE DISTINGUISHED AND HAS YET TO BE EXPELLED FROM IT.

"Say everywhere that I have said it". M.B. 1974
"Do not say that I have not said it". M.B. 1974

WHILE IN MANSFIELD, HE MARRIED MISS ETHEL INK. IN 1915 HE RETURNED TO BRECKSVILLE AND FARMED FOR TEN YEARS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection looking for the "lost artists". What about "lost dealers"?

**BOOK SIX Capitalism 1949**

19. ALSO DIAGNOSTICALLY SIGNIFICANT IS THE "NOTHING" ANSWER.

"Among several fragments of fictional autobiography by Marcel Broodthaers is one which may be real.

FOR FOUR YEARS HE AND HIS WIFE OPERATED THE CHIPPEWA HOTEL, NOW KNOWN AS BRECKSVILLE INN, WHICH WILL OBSERVE ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY NEXT YEAR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection around a theme and a word I like very much: Bildungsroman.

**BOOK SEVEN Name Unknown 1951**

25. ANRATASI (1968) STRESSED THE FUNCTION OF TESTS AS A WAY OF MEASURING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PEOPLE OR DIFFERENCES IN THE SAME PERSON OVER TIME.

The "I" character recounts how his father had taken him to museums on Sunday afternoons until he rebelled at the age of fourteen. By this time he was already writing poems.

SINCE LEAVING THE HOTEL, MR. BOURNE HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE CONFECTIONERY BUSINESS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection correcting the order: very early pieces from artists we never knew but wished we had; early pieces from artists we knew but didn't collect at the time; those we got just right.

**BOOK EIGHT Right Or Wrong: Making Moral Decisions 1951**

IN THE UNCONSCIOUS, NO DOES NOT EXIST, AND THERE IS NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN CONTRARIES. NEGATION IS ONLY INTRODUCED BY THE PROCESS OF REPRESSION. 19

About 1939, Marcel caught hepatitis and, unaware of the long recovery period necessary, resumed his regular way of life too soon.

MR. BOURNE HAS TWO HOBBIES, CONTACT BRIDGE AND SINGING IN A MALE CHORUS. HE IS A MASON, AN EASTERN STAR AND AN ODDFELLOW. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE BRECKSVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with 80's artists who were on the right side of the dime when the scene changed.

**BOOK NINE Atomic Radiation 1952**

IN BOTH MALE AND FEMALE, A CONFLICT BETWEEN LIBIDINAL AND OTHER AIMS IS A FUNDAMENTAL FACTOR FOR THE POSTULATION OF DOUBLES. 3

That mistake started the damage to his liver that would eventually cause his untimely death.

FOR FOUR YEARS RECENTLY HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION. THE BOURNES HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS, MRS. VIRGINIA HUNT OF RICHFIELD, AND MRS. GERALDINE RUPPERSBERG OF BRECKSVILLE. UNDATED NEWSPAPER CLIPPING LATE 30'S, EARLY 40'S.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the esthetic theories of Alan Greenspan. High and Low.

**BOOK TEN Chicken Little Counts To Ten 1955**

13. "THE LAMPS JUST LIGHTED DOWN THE LONG DIM STREET, NO ONE FOR ME

Marcel Broodthaers was publicly active as a visual artist for only the last twelve years of his life...

CHAPTER TWO: OBITUARIES

Honey, I rearranged the collection after I came back from a seminar on art forgery at the Met. Sorry.

**BOOK ELEVEN Measuring Large Distances 1959**

I THINK IT IS MYSELF I GO TO MEET:
I DO NOT CARE: SOMEDAY I SHALL
NOT THINK: I SHALL NOT BE"
CHARLOTTE MEW

Between 1968 and 1972 his major preoccupation was the Musée d'Art Moderne, Département des Aigles.

"ONE CAN ENUMERATE INDEFINITELY, IN A DESCRIPTION, THE OBJECTS OF WHICH A GIVEN SCENE IS COMPOSED:

Honey, I rearranged the collection trying to make a purse out of a sow's ear.

**BOOK TWELVE Genetic Death and Genetic Radiation 1961**

28. THESE ARE CONCEPTIONS WHICH WERE TO YIELD A CONCEPTION OF ART: AN AUTHOR MAY BE THOUGHT TO LEAD A DOUBLE LIFE OR TO ACHIEVE A SECOND SELF, AN ALTER EGO, IN THE ART HE CREATES, AND HE MAY ALSO BE THOUGHT TO LOSE HIMSELF THERE.

Before 1964, Marcel Broodthaers had worked in almost complete isolation as a poet, mainly writing but also making films and photography...

TRUTH WILL BEGIN TO EMERGE ONLY WHEN THE WRITER TAKES TWO DIFFERENT OBJECTS, ESTABLISHES THEIR RELATIONSHIP, ANALOGOUS IN THE WORLD OF ART TO THE UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP OF CAUSE AND EFFECT IN THAT OF SCIENCE,

Honey, I rearranged the collection after I almost sold it given what I heard in Munich last week.

**BOOK THIRTEEN Random Events 1962**

48. TO DISCUSS THE LITERATURE OF THE DOUBLE IS TO DISCUSS THE LITERATURE OF SOLITUDE, WHAT MAY BE CALLED THE ANNALS OF THE ORPHAN OR SINGLETON.

La Moule

AND ENCLOSES THEM WITHIN THE NECESSARY SETTING OF A FINE STYLE, OR WHEN, LIKE LIFE ITSELF, BY STRESSING A QUALITY COMMON TO TWO SENSATIONS,

Honey, I rearranged the collection on just the top floor.

**BOOK FOURTEEN** The Losers 1965

## 32. THE INTIMATE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE PHYSICAL IMAGE AND THE IMAGE OF THE ARTIST IN HIS OWN EYES

Cette roublarde a évité le moule de société.
Elle s'est coulée dans le sien propre.

HE CAN DISENGAGE THEIR ESSENCE BY REUNITING THEM, AND SO REMOVE THEM FROM THE ACCIDENTS OF TIME,

Honey, I rearranged the collection thinking in English even though I'm still more at home in French.

**BOOK FIFTEEN LSD-25 1967**

IS SOUNDED WHEN HAWTHORNE WONDERS IF M. DU MIROIR WILL HAUNT HIS GRAVE AFTER DEATH, LINGERING "TO REMIND A NEGLECTFUL WORLD OF ONE WHO STAKED MUCH TO WIN A NAME".

D'autres, ressemblantes, partagent avec elle
l'anti mer.
Elle est parfaite.

BY LINKING THEM IN A METAPHOR THROUGH THAT CLOSE ALLIANCE OF WORDS WHICH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DESCRIBE".
MARCEL PROUST

Honey, I rearranged the collection as nothing is definite and I know your father wants nothing leaked or published.

**BOOK SIXTEEN Road Signs On A Merry-Go-Round 1967**

THE CASE OF MRS. M.
AS A RESULT OF A MARITAL SEPARATION, MRS. M. HAD MOVED FROM PHOENIX TO LOS ANGELES TO LIVE WITH HER MOTHER.

approximately

"IT IS NOT BECAUSE OTHER PEOPLE ARE DEAD THAT OUR AFFECTION FOR THEM FADES; IT IS BECAUSE WE OURSELVES ARE DYING".
MARCEL PROUST, "THE FUGITIVE"

Honey, I rearranged the collection... blindfolded.

**Published by C. Editions New York, N.Y.**
**Copyright A. Ruppersberg, 1991**

MRS. M. IS A THIRTY-YEAR OLD, TALL, ATTRACTIVE WOMAN WHO APPEARED METICULOUSLY DRESSED IN FASHIONABLE CLOTHES.

This clever thing has avoided the mould of society.
She has cast herself in her very own.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2000
EDITH GINSBERG, AN ANCHOR FOR POET STEPSON, DIES AT 94
BY GEORGES JAMES

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to "impose my esthetic judgement gratuitously". Educate, in other words.

**Remainders: Novel, Sculpture, Film**
**First draft notes.**

SHE WAS AN ONLY CHILD OF PROFESSIONAL PARENTS. DURING HER CHILDHOOD YEARS MRS. M. APPARENTLY SPENT A GOOD DEAL OF TIME ALONE "WATCHING TV AND PLAYING DOLLS".

Others just like her share
the anti-sea.
She is perfect.

EDITH GINSBERG, THE POET ALLEN GINSBERG'S STEPMOTHER, WHO BROUGHT A SENSE OF HARMONY INTO A FAMILY THAT HAD BEEN DISTRUPTED BY MENTAL ILLNESS, DIED ON TUESDAY IN RIDGEWOOD, N.J.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to collect anecdotes from guests.

**The title REMAINDERS is intended to refer not only to its model in real life, but to the categories of art that follow in the title: Novel, Sculpture, Film.**

HER SPEECH WAS SOMEWHAT HALTING WITH A STILTED TONAL QUALITY. SHE APPEARED TO ATTEMPT TO BE VERY PRECISE WITH HER LANGUAGE BUT OFTEN USED COMPLEX SYNTAX IN A INCORRECT MANNER.

This poem, which was written before he became an artist, is impossible to translate adequately because of its pun, une moule = a mussel; un moule = a mould.

SHE WAS 94 AND LIVED IN ELMWOOD PARK, N.J.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see why dots and little pieces of something are perennially popular.

**None of these categories is as pure today as they once were. Purity of form is an idea also on the remaindered shelf, and is purposely blurred in this work.**

VERBAL RESPONSES WERE OFTEN DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW BECAUSE OF APPARENT BLOCKING, EXTREME VAGUENESS AND TANGENTIALITY.

It, or "she" in French, is her own mould, the crustacean literally, the person metaphorically.

MRS. GINSBERG, THE FORMER EDITH COHEN OF PATERSON, N.J., WAS A 40 YEAR OLD DIVORCED MOTHER WORKING AS A BOOKKEEPER, WITH A TEENAGE SON AND DAUGHTER,

Honey, I rearranged the collection for the 32nd time.
Now I haven't been out of the house for 42 days.

**All three categories are now one inside of the other and refer to things outside of themselves.**

THE CASE OF MR. R.
MR. R. IS A TALL, THIN FIFTY-YEAR OLD, SINGLE, CAUCASIAN MALE. MR. R. SAT QUIETLY IN HIS CHAIR THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW.

She is shaped by her own shell not by fashion. At the same time she makes (secretes) her own mould or shell.

WHEN SHE MET LOUIS GINSBERG, THEN AN ENGLISH TEACHER AT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL IN PATERSON, WHO HAD PUBLISHED TWO BOOKS OF VERSE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection wondering if the Partisan Review still exists?

**While REMAINDERS is on the one hand a novel because it tells a story, it is also a sculpture because it is a three-dimensional object in front of you,**

HE WAS OBSERVED TO BE GENERALLY COOPERATIVE DESPITE THE NEGATIVE TONE AND CONTENT OF MUCH OF WHAT HE SAID. INSIGHT WAS FAIR, THOUGH MR. R. TENDED TO BLAME EXTERNAL SOURCES RATHER THAN HIMSELF FOR ALL OF HIS PROBLEMS.

The careful reader will already see an indication of the close connections between the sources of his earlier and later works.

MRS. GINSBERG RECALLED IN 1997 THAT LOUIS SHOWED UP UNANNOUNCED AT HER DOOR ONE DAY IN 1946 WEARING A SUIT AND TIE AND CARRYING A COPY OF "THE RUBAIYAT OF OMAR KHAYYAM".

Honey, I rearranged the collection following a peculiar but familiar route: from P-Town to N.Y.C. From brillant dinner parties to buying trips to Europe. From an old hotel in the Pyrénées to best of all, Fifth Avenue.

**and it is a film because it is composed of sequential images cut and pasted together using filmic techniques.**

KUBIN, ALFRED, THE OTHER SIDE. TRANSLATED BY DENVER LINDLY. NEW YORK: CROWN PUBLISHERS, 1967

He made a change in the form his activities took but there was no break in the continuity of content or even of subject matter..."

HE EXPLAINED THAT A MUTUAL FRIEND HAD SAID, "WE MIGHT BE FRIENDS". "I INVITED HIM IN", SHE SAID. "AND WE TALKED. AND WE DANCED."

Honey, I rearranged the collection around three great teachers: Hoffman (mine); Kaprow (yours); and Baldessari (everyone's).

**Each of these singular categories has elements of the other inside it. One of the novel's "texts" is the screenplay for the film contained therein.**

30. PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS AND LITERARY FORM: A STUDY OF THE DOUBLES IN DOSTOEVSKY. NEW YORK: PHAIDON PUBLISHERS, INC., 1955

"Maria Gilissen Broodthaers/Michael Compton", Tate Gallery, London, 1980

HE HAD TURNED 50, A MAN DESCRIBED BY HIS SON ALLEN IN "KADDISH" AS TEARFUL AND LONELY WITH AN INSTITUTIONALIZED WIFE, NAOMI, WHO RANTED AGAINST HIM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection just to keep everything straight between us and the artists. Who benefits from whom? In what way? Does it matter?, etc.

**This can be read as a straight narrative only by examining one of the key elements of a book, the dustjacket.**

BREICHA, OTTO AND FRITSCH, GERHARD, EDS. FINALE UND AUFTAKT WIEN 1898-1914. SALZBURG: OTTO MÜLLER VERLAG, 1964

"I, too, wondered whether I could not sell something and succeed in life. For more time I had been no good at anything. I am forty years old...

AFTER A PAINFUL DECISION TO DIVORCE HER, LOUIS MARRIED EDITH IN 1950. LOUIS GINSBERG DIED IN 1976...

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to make it look like we have things that we don't.

**Sculpture is looked at first as a whole and so must all the books, table and boxes which make up REMAINDERS.**

GUNTHER, HERBERT, KUNSTLERISCHE DOPPEL-BEGABUNGEN. MUNICH: ERNST HEIMAN, 1938, 1960

Finally the idea of inventing something insincere crossed my mind and I set to work straightaway.

MRS. GINSBERG'S SON, HAROLD COHEN, SAID IN A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW THAT SHE AND ALLEN TOOK TO EACH OTHER IMMEDIATELY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to engage again my worst enemy and my _____ _____. Fill in the blanks.

**All of the elements must be considered: the dustjacket, the binding, the number of pages, the color of the boards, etc.**

THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY (PENGUIN EDS., REPRINTED 1973), PP. 159, 194

At the end of three months I showed what I had produced to Philippe Edouard Toussaint, the owner of the Galerie St. Laurent.

"IT WAS REALLY EDITH WHO TOOK HIM IN HAND AND SORT OF CONVINCED HIM SHE WOULD ALWAYS BE THERE FOR HIM", MR. COHEN SAID "SHE BECAME A LODESTONE. YOU COULD SEE SHE WAS THE CENTER OF THAT WHOLE FAMILY".

Honey, I rearranged the collection up and down, your way and mine, over and over. Bringing out, as they say, the integrity of the major objects.

**In the act of following the screenplay, fragment by fragment, through the sixteen dustjackets, the viewer pieces together the whole in a method similar to that of the film editor who creates a whole out of disparate shots filmed at different times.**

17. See The Mirror and the Lamp by Abrams, 1953, p. 245

"But it is art", he said "and I will willingly exhibit all of it". "Agreed" I replied.

THE GINSBERGS BOUGHT A HOUSE IN PATERSON, WHICH BECAME A CENTER FOR ALLEN'S BOHEMIAN FRIENDS, WHO VISITED TO DISCUSS POETRY WITH LOUIS AND THE POET WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS, ALLEN'S MENTOR, WHO LIVED IN RUTHERFORD, N.J.

Honey, I rearranged the collection as a roadmap to the country.

**In this way, the fictional time of the screenplay and the novel pass as real time passes, the same as time and reality pass in the viewing of a film.**

19. THE DIVIDED SELF BY R.D. LAING (PENGUIN EDS., REPRINTED 1976), PP. 128, 162, 195

If I sell something, he takes 30%. It seems these are the usual conditions, some galleries take 75%.

AMONG THE FREQUENT VISITORS WAS GREGORY CORSO, WHO ENDEARED HIMSELF TO MRS. GINSBERG BY GOING ABOUT FIXING THINGS IN THE HOUSE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I didn't buy things to pile them up. I'm not a decorator.

**Each chapter is "written" using a film editing technique chosen specifically for the suitability of the narrative to the subject matter of that particular chapter or volume.**

13. Poetical Work of William Wordsworth, eds. Thomas Hutchinson (1928), p. 626

What is it? In fact it is objects."

"THEY STAYED A FEW DAYS", SHE SAID. "THEY TURNED DAY INTO NIGHT. THEY ATE ME OUT OF HOUSE AND HOME, AND I WAS WORKING AND I FINALLY SAID, "PLEASE LOUIS, TELL THEM TO GO HOME"."

Honey, I rearranged the collection as I think there is something to be said for self-indulgence.

**Each volume makes use of a different editing technique and serves to illustrate with "a textbook clarity" the various aspects of film grammar.**

15. THE PRELUDE: A PARALLEL TEXT, THE 1805 AND 1850 VERSIONS, EDS. J.C. MAXWELL (PENGUIN EDS., 1971), PP. 156, 157

Marcel Broodthaers
Galerie St. Laurent
Rue Duquesnoy

HER FAVORITE, HOWEVER, WAS JACK KEROUAC, WHOM SHE DESCRIBED AS "THE MOST CHARMING, BRIGHTEST" OF THE VISITORS. "AND HE HAD SO MUCH PERSONALITY", SHE SAID.

Honey, I rearranged the collection style by style, room by room, period by period, detail by detail, because this time around, the ensemble counts more than the individual pieces.

**Developed in the 1920's, this new form of grammar was put to use in these educational films, effectively replacing the older grammar usually expected between the hard covers of books.**

"IF YOU CAN CLAIM THAT RAMEAU'S NEPHEW IS A PIONEERING INSTANCE OF THE MODERN AND ROMANTIC LITERATURE OF DUALITY..."

From 10th to 25th April, 1964
Private view Wednesday 10th
from 6 to 8

MRS. GINSBERG TRIED TO ALLY HER HUSBAND'S RESENTMENT OVER ALLEN'S HOMOSEXUALITY. "IT DOESN'T MAKE HIM LESS OF A PERSON", SHE TOLD HIM. "HE'S YOUR SON".

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let someone know how it felt to be a patron at the end of an era.

**REMAINDERS** is an aleatory novel in sixteen chapters. Each chapter is one of sixteen different books, each with its own title, author and text.

I CAN SEE YOUR LIPS MOVING: THE HISTORY AND ART OF VENTRILOQUISM BY VALENTINE VOX (1981), P. 58

(printed on pages taken from magazines)

FATHER AND SON DREW CLOSER TOGETHER IN THE LATE 1960'S, SHE SAID, WHEN THEY BEGAN A SERIES OF POETRY READINGS TOGETHER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by separating it into two distinct periods: mine (cosmopolitan) and yours (regional).

**Each book has a narrative relationship within it and with each of the other book/chapters.**

5. CONTEMPLATING THE NATURE OF THE DETECTIVE DUPIN, THE NARRATOR OF THE MURDERS IN THE RUE MORGUE DWELLS ON "THE OLD PHILOSOPHY OF THE BI-PART SOUL" AND ON THE FANCY OF A DOUBLE DUPIN-THE CREATIVE AND THE RESOLVENT: TALES OF MYSTERY AND IMAGINATION BY EDGAR ALLEN POE, ABRAMS PRESS (UNDATED).

"This text announced the appearence of an artist who was to produce in the ten years of creation that remained before he died

"ALL I KNOW IS I DROVE THEM AROUND TO THE POETRY READINGS", MRS. GINSBERG SAID "I WAS THE DRIVER IN THE FAMILY. AND IT CERTAINLY DID CHANGE MY LIFE". "I WASN'T AS RESERVED", SHE ADDED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because this is a home not a museum.

**Early silent film was shot in a ratio of sixteen frames per second. In the editing of the frames for this work I've used twenty-four frames per second, the speed used since 1929 when sound was first incorporated into film. 1929 is also the beginning of the novel in this work.**

**9. THE RULE OF CONTRARIES SOLVES EVERYTHING IN THE WAY OF PARADOX AND IMPOSSIBILITY: TALES OF MYSTERY AND IMAGINATION, P. 509**

a group of works which have been recognized as being among the finest and most influential in their time and perhaps even more so in the late 70's.

ALLEN GINSBERG DEDICATED "WHITE SHROUD, POEMS 1980-1985" (HARPER & ROW, 1986) TO HER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with everything back from the Paris apartment and ready to be photographed for the catalogue.

**The central metaphor or leitmotif of REMAINDERS first appears in Book Two, Catalysis. The original film of 1937 shows the process of a chemical reaction in which the addition of another substance does not cause either substance to be permanently affected.**

8. JEKYLL OPENS HIS FULL STATEMENT OF THE CASE BY SAYING THAT IN HIS YOUTH HE HAD BEEN BOTH GRAVE AND GAY: THE STRANGE CASE OF DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE, EVERYMAN EDS., WITH OTHER TALES (REPRINTED 1974), P. 48

Like all utterances of this strange and remarkable artist it can be understood either literally or ironically

LOUIS GINSBERG DEDICATED HIS LAST TWO COLLECTIONS TO HER... IN ADDITION TO HER SON...

Honey, I rearranged the collection in honor of your patience, taste, style, vision, intelligence, humor, modesty, individuality, sacrifice and good will, etc.

**The still chosen to represent this film is an image of smoke-stack pollution from heavy industry.**

11. SONNET 73 HAS DEATH'S SECOND SELF.

but it can be understood better still both literally and ironically."
Michael Compton, in "Marcel Broodthaers", London, Tate Gallery, 1980.

AFTER ALLEN GINSBERG WHOM SHE DESCRIBED AS "ALWAYS VERY LOVING" TO HER, DIED AT 70 IN 1997, SHE SAID: "WELL, I DON'T WEEP. AND I DON'T WAIL. AND I'M ALRIGHT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it gives me the opportunity to ask if this is the way we want to live?

**Book Fifteen, LSD-25 from 1967 presents another form of catalysis, this time a chemical missing in the brain, an interior catalysis which results in a form of cultural catalysis.**

12. FROM LABYRINTHS, PP. 282, 283. JAMES IRBY IS THE TRANSLATOR OF ALL QUOTATIONS FROM BORGES.

## To be Bien-Pensant... or not to be. to be blind.

By Marcel Broodthaers
Translated by Paul Schmidt

IT TAKES A COUPLE OF WEEKS. LOOK, AS YOU GET OLDER, YOU GET PHILOSOPHICAL. YOU GO ON LIVING. AND YOU'RE VERY GRATEFUL FOR EACH DAY YOU'RE ALIVE".

Honey, I rearranged the collection after an inspiring dream of a new theoretical context. Now I forgot what it was.

**The still chosen from this film is a close-up of a hand with an offering of three LSD-laced sugar cubes.**

23. TRISTRAM SHANDY, EVERYMAN EDS. (REPRINTED 1961), P. 53

What is Art? Ever since the nineteenth century the question has been posed incessantly to the artist, to the museum director, to the art lover alike.

SHE ADDED, "I'VE GOT WONDERFUL MEMORIES".

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm concerned about all these Dark Room pieces: Viola, Douglas, Coleman, etc. It's making me depressed.

**The dictionary defines catalysis as:**
**"1. Chem. the causing or accelerating of a chemical change by the addition of a substance which is not permanently affected by the reaction.**

ALLEN RUPPERSBERG PROJECT-REMAINDERS
TRANSCRIPT OF LSD-25

I doubt, in fact, that it is possible to give a serious definition of Art, unless we examine the question in terms of a constant, I mean the transformation of art into merchandise.

MAY 5, 1963
SATURDAY NIGHT
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if we can do Installation or Scatter Art by ourselves or if we have to invite the artists.

**2. an action between two or more persons or forces, initiated by an agent that itself remains unaffected by the action: social catalysis occasioned by..." This idea of catalysis forms the central metaphor of the novel.**

OPENING SEQUENCE WITH BOTTLE OF PILLS, IMAGE OF HAND AND GOATEED MAN IN MIRROR...

This process is accelerated nowadays to the point where artistic and commercial values have become superimposed.

WE JUST FINISHED LOOKING AT "THE DEFENDERS" A BIT AGO AND HAVE A LITTLE TIME BEFORE GOING TO BED SO I THOUGHT I WOULD GET A NOTE STARTED TO YOU AS I IMAGINE YOU WILL BE LOOKING FOR ONE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm sick of harmony and historical period and architectural rhythm and patronage. Call Sotheby's back.

**The Table of Contents, which is the same in each of the 16 books, is the basis for the narrative framework. It consists of a list of 16 films which span a 36 year period.**

NARRATOR; THE FANTASTIC AND FRIGHTENING TERRITORY OF INNER SPACE, TRAVELS SO FAR THAT HE MAY GET OFF COURTESY OF THE MOST POWERFUL MIND ALTERING DRUG EVER, DESTINATION UNKNOWN COURTESY OF LSD-25.

If we are concerned with the phenomenon of reification, then Art is a particular representation of the phenomenon, a form of tautology.

WE DIDN'T WRITE UNTIL WE HEARD FROM YOU JUST IN CASE YOU HAD CHANGED YOUR MIND ABOUT YOUR NEW LOCATION. I HOPE IT WILL TURN OUT TO BE A GOOD MOVE

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let you know that NOW I'm serious.

**This temporal space between the films is further enlarged and stretched by the decision to select only one frame from each film.**

LSD: (CHART OF CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS). MY FULL CHEMICAL NAME IS DEXTRO LYSERGIC ACID DIETHYLAMATARTRATE 25. BUT, AS EVERYONE KNOWS, I'M CALLED LSD FOR SHORT,

We could then justify it as affirmation, and at the same time carve out a dubious existence.

AND MAKE THINGS A LITTLE MORE PLEASANT THAN I GUESS THEY HAVE BEEN LATELY. WE WERE A BIT AMUSED AT YOUR COMMENT THAT JULIE WOULD ONLY HAVE THREE BLOCKS TO WALK, DOES SHE DO ALL THE WALKING?

Honey, I rearranged the collection along the lines of the old joke about Hamish Long and Richard Fulton. How many do we have anyway?

**These sixteen frames–brief moments far apart in time are then arranged in such a way as to construct a linear history of America using the titles and dates of these old educational films as a narrative structure.**

THOUGH I'M ALSO CALLED ACID AND BY SOME HIGHLY UNFLATTERING NAMES BY THOSE WHO WISH I HAD NEVER BEEN DISCOVERED. GOATEED MAN IN THE MIRROR APPEARS

We would then have to consider what such a definition might be worth.

I THOUGHT THE FELLOWS WERE THE ONES WHO CALLED ON THE GIRLS. THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOWADAYS, HUH?

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I think Agnes Martin and Dan Flavin are beautifully matched.

**The second part of the narrative framework consists of two continuous sequences of eight frames a piece joined to parallel the first 16 and form a pool of 32 still images.**

LSD: RIGHT NOW SOME 200 MICROGRAMS OF MY SUBSTANCE HAVE JUST ENTERED HIS BODY AND ALREADY MY POTENT MOLECULES ARE ON THE WAY TO HIS BRAIN WHERE THEY WILL TRIGGER SOME VERY SPECIAL CHEMISTRY.

One fact is certain: commentaries on Art are the result of shifts in the economy.

THINGS ARE DIFFERENT HERE, TOO. PAPA MOVED IN YESTERDAY AND I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FIND PLACES FOR ALL HIS STUFF AND MINE, TOO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection without all the taboos artists always talk about.

**For example: one sequence juxtaposes a still from LSD-25 of a man embarking on an acid trip with stills from the film Three Fox Fables, showing a fox with a desire for a bunch of grapes.**

AND IN JUST A FEW MINUTES NOW I WILL SHOW HIM GLIMPSES OF DISTORTED BEAUTY, OR TUMBLE HIM INTO A TERRIFYING PRIVATE HELL.

It seems doubtful to us that such commentaries can be described as political.

I HAD TO MOVE ALL MY THINGS OUT OF THE DOWNSTAIRS BEDROOM AND TO FIND A PLACE TO PUT THEM IS REALLY SOMETHING. UNCLE CLAIR REALLY GOT ON A RAMPAGE AND TALKED PRETTY MEAN

Honey, I rearranged the collection recalling when collecting and going to galleries was just a "favorite pastime".

**The narration is structured from two points of view. One is an exterior, a linear history (a plot) hinted at by the list of titles and dates seen in the Table of Contents, and the second, an interior experience which tells of desire and change as seen in the images.**

BUT AT JUST THIS MOMENT NEITHER HE NOR I KNOW THE DIRECTION OR DESTINATION OF THE TRIP WE ARE ABOUT TO TAKE TOGETHER. (MUSIC UP—LYRICS)

Art is a prisoner of its phantasms and its function as magic; it hangs on our bourgeois walls as a sign of power,

SO WE ALL FELT THAT PAPA SHOULD GET OUT AT ONCE. IN FACT, AUNTIE MARIAN IS MOVING OUT, TOO. I GUESS SHE IS GOING TO STAY AT A MOTEL UNTIL SHE CAN FIND AN APARTMENT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I felt outside of it.

**This novel has no real characters with whom the reader can identify. The story told is either one of pure consciousness and inner space or a linear, narrative, history of the external world.**

"...ROUND, ROUND, OUT OF YOUR MIND, YOU THINK YOU'RE SEEING THINGS, I KNOW YOU'RE BLIND. A MILLION BRIGHT COLORS EXPLODE IN YOUR HEAD, TODAY YOU'RE JUST HIGH AND TOMORROW YOU'RE DEAD. ROUND, ROUND, ROUND, ROUND..."

it flickers along the peripeties of our history like a shadow-play, but is it artistic?

SHE HOPES TO KEEP IT FROM MERIDITH UNTIL SCHOOL IS OUT IF POSSIBLE AS IT SURE WOULD UPSET HER. IT WOULD BE HARD TO KEEP HER MIND ON EXAMS IF SHE KNEW ALL THAT WAS GOING ON AT HOME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection looking for the most difficult piece. I'm not finished yet.

**The reader is left to choose between the para-normality presented by the films themselves or the seeming abnormality of the mind that is pictured.**

(MUSIC FADES—CUT TO SCENE IN BOOKSTORE)
LSD: ROUND, ROUND, OUT OF YOUR MIND, THAT'S RIGHT. AND AS YOU MIGHT IMAGINE, NOT ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW ABOUT ME APPROVE OF WHAT I AM OR WHAT I DO.

To read the Byzantine writing on the subject reminds us of the sex of angels, of Rabelais, or of debates at the Sorbonne.

WHAT A CHANGE HAS TAKEN PLACE THERE IN JUST TWO WEEKS! I AM WRITING THIS IN YOUR ROOM WHERE I HAVE PUT THE TYPEWRITER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm retired now AND objective.

**In choosing to use a limited set of images to represent these ideas, I hoped to suggest a single consciousness.**

THESE PEOPLE, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE SEEN MY EFFECTS AND THINK I'M A TOTAL DISASTER. BUT THEY KNOW TOO THAT I'M PART OF THE SCENE, AND THAT I CAN BE PURCHASED MUCH MORE EASILY THAN YOU MIGHT THINK.

At the moment, inopportune linguistic investigations all end in a single gloss, which its authors like to call criticism.

I GOT A CHEST OF DRAWERS FROM DOROTHY AND PUT IT IN OUR BEDROOM WHICH TAKES CARE OF A LOT OF THE THINGS I HAD DOWNSTAIRS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection dreaming of all the things money can't buy that nonetheless, are hanging on our walls.

**This narrator could either be the man taking the acid and who appears throughout to be having an acid flashback,**

(VOICE-OVER—CHARACTERS IN GRANNY GLASSES)
A: "WELL, I THINK IT'S PRETTY EASY, CAUSE, UH, WELL, LIKE LAST NIGHT, THIS ONE DUDE WALKED UP TO ME AND JUST HANDED ME SOME YOU KNOW, SO I JUST WENT AHEAD TOOK IT, HUH".

Art and literature... which of the moon's faces is hidden?
And how many clouds and fleeting visions there are.

I HAVE SOME THINGS IN YOUR CLOSET THAT WE WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO TAKE OUT WHEN YOU COME HOME BUT WILL WORRY ABOUT THAT WHEN YOU GET HERE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection as an exercise in privacy in this now very public world of art collecting. Who knew?

**or it could be the tab of acid itself, narrating the screenplay and the overall work, REMAINDERS itself.**

B: "YOU CAN BE STANDING ON A STREET CORNER AND SOMEBODY WILL APPROACH YOU".

I have discovered nothing here, not even America. I choose to consider Art as a useless labor, apolitical and of little moral significance.

THERE ARE A COUPLE OF THINGS I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO REMEMBER TO TELL YOU AND I ALWAYS FORGET UNTIL AFTER THE LETTER HAS GONE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I want a more precise and actual order to things than the impressions and memories that come from artworks.

**The novel revolves around the consciousness of the questionable narrator with its subject the contents of this consciousness.**

C: "IT'S TOO EASY TO GET ACID, THERE'S TOO MANY TEENYBOPPERS RUNNING AROUND TOWN".

Urged on by some base inspiration, I confess I would experience a kind of pleasure at being proved wrong.

YOU ASKED ABOUT MRS. MOTSCH'S PROPERTY, IT IS UP FOR SALE. I HAVE SEEN CARS IN THERE SEVERAL TIMES LATELY. I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE OF ANY USE TO THE CHURCH EXCEPT FOR THE MONEY VALUE...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in a timeline of the life of JFK.

**Sequence and image are constantly changing but are they being transformed in anyone's mind, real or imagined?**

D: "I CAN GET ACID BY SIMPLY CALLING A FRIEND, AND I CAN GET AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE AS I WANT WITHIN A VERY SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME".

A guilty pleasure, since it would be at the expense of the victims, those who thought I was right.

SUNDAY A.M., 8:20

DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection as either a window of opportunity or a window onto something else. You decide.

**Random impressions are mixed at will and the part becomes an eternal present.**

E: "ACID FOR ME IS VERY EASY TO GET. I CAN GET IT FROM ANYWHERE FROM 4 BLOCKS TO 10 BLOCKS FROM MY HOUSE IN ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES".

Monsieur de la Palice is one of my customers*. He loves novelties, and he, who makes other people laugh, finds my alphabet a pretext for his own laughter. My alphabet is painted.

PAPA AND I HAVE JUST FINISHED BREAKFAST AND LISTENED TO THE WEATHER FORECAST ON THE RADIO...

Honey, I rearranged the collection celebrating the period when there used to be a difference between cartoons and painting.

**Given such a structure the reader is forced to question the importance of any sequence of events, beginning with the Table of Contents.**

LSD: SEE WHAT DID I TELL YOU, KIDS KNOW. OF COURSE I'M NOT EXACTLY THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF YOUNG PEOPLE,

All of this is quite obscure.

AS USUAL I AM HAVING TROUBLE BEING HOME AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME TO SPRAY FRUIT TREES.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists who knew each other, but were of different ages; artists who knew each other but worked differently, and artists who were influenced by artists who were soon forgotten.

**Does it matter at all? Each chapter is a different text and these chapters don't read in any necessary order. Browsing is encouraged.**

BUT KIDS KNOW A LOT ABOUT ME, MORE THAN MOST OLDER PEOPLE, FOR EXAMPLE.
(CUT TO SCENE IN PHARMACY—OLDER WOMEN & MEN SPEAK).

The reader is invited to enter into the darkness to decipher a theory or to experience feelings of fraternity, those feelings that unite all men, and particularly the blind.

I DID GET THE FIRST SPRAY ON THE APPLE TREE OUT WEST OF THE GARAGE AT THE RIGHT TIME, JUST BEFORE BLOSSOMING, BY DOING IT LAST SUNDAY AT ABOUT 8:30 A.M.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to find a relationship between the artists from Ohio we have. Kosuth, Jenny Holzer, Allen Ruppersberg, John Miller, Renee Green, Jennifer Bolande. Who else?

**The inner form of the book becomes one of the themes. The aleatory novel is built on chance and contingency and involves continued physical shuffling of the elements and events of the narrative.**

"THEY'RE DAMAGED FOR LIFE, THEIR BRAINS ARE WRECKED, THEY GO INTO INSTITUTIONS, THEY'RE THROUGH FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIFE".

*Monsieur de la Palice is the character of a French folk song who pronounces truisms. A typical Lapalissade would be "Two hours before his death, he was still alive".

THE APPLE TREES ARE NOW IN FULL BLOOM AND ARE BEAUTIFUL. I HAVE SOME COLORED FILM IN THE CAMERA, TOOK THREE OR FOUR PICTURES LAST SUNDAY, AND WILL TRY TO GET A COUPLE MORE WHILE THE BLOSSOMS ARE OUT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection based on artists' ego, going from smallest to biggest. Can't be done.

**This is to result in never having the same reading. The main concern of such a system is that new mixtures of images continues to be created.**

"I READ SOME SILLY THINGS ABOUT KIDS FALLING OUT OF TREES, AND PAINTING THEMSELVES GREEN AND YELLOW. IT'S RATHER STUPID TO ME".

"He was born rather on the margins. As his name suggests, he was of part Flemish stock, brought up in French speaking Belgium.

THE PLUM TREE, THE SMALL, NEW ONE JUST NORTHEAST OF THE GARDEN WAS IN FULL BLOOM LAST WEEK AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN SPRAYED ABOUT THURSDAY BUT I COULDN'T GET TO IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists we only say "hello" to.

**REMAINDERS** involves not only a cinematic reading of the "text" pages from the 16 different books (each a "chapter") but also a reading of the relationship between word and image.

"IT'S NOT GOOD".

Although Brussels could not rival Paris as a center of the arts it had one great contemporary artist, Magritte,

THE HARD, COLD WINTER KILLED ALL OF THE PEACH AND CHERRY BLOSSOMS AS WELL AS SOME OF MOM'S ROSES...

Honey, I rearranged the collection as you suggested. We'll see.

This can be seen in the play of the dustjackets as screenplay, between the conflicting titles seen on the cover and the spine of each book (one real, the other fictional), and finally in the consideration of book as object.

"THEY ARE TAKING IT IN SUGAR CUBES. IT'S BEING DROPPED INTO THEIR PUNCH".

whom Broodthaers met as a young man and again after a gap of more than twenty years when he himself had become an artist....

STILL DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA DEAL, THE TRIP OUT THERE I MEAN...

Honey, I rearranged the collection replacing Phil what's-his-name, the Monochrome painter, with Philip what's-his-name the Figurative one.

**All of these elements are combined and read differently with each viewing of the work.**

"WELL, TRUTHFULLY MY FRIEND, I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT IT, ONLY WHAT I READ IN THE PAPER AND WHAT I SEE ON TELEVISION, AND THAT'S ABOUT ALL".

Broodthaers had wanted to study art history but when he left school he was persuaded to enroll for chemistry...

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR SPENDING SOME TIME AT HOME, HOWEVER...

Honey, I rearranged the collection again today. I never thought we could have a Cubist Painting and that I could move it around.

**Even though there is an organizational structure to the entire piece, no viewer will start at the same place or compose it in quite the same way.**

"WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS, DON'T YOU THINK SO, BUT I DON'T KNOW..."

He soon abandoned his studies and worked for a while in a bank...

DID YOU EVER CONSIDER STAYING IN SCHOOL IF NO JOB TURNS UP?...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I have some questions about prints. Why do we have them?

**The elements of chance which have been so important to 20th-Century art making take over again.**

(MUSIC UP—BOOKSTORE IMAGES)
LSD: I'VE BECOME A FAVORITE TOPIC OF CONVERSATION ALMOST EVERYWHERE.

He also became a book dealer, a transformation which marked one of his continuing obsessions: with writers

MAY 19, 1963
SUNDAY MORNING
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I have some more questions about prints. Why do artists do them?

**Each of these three forms: novel, sculpture and film, is constructed from aspects of the others and in an ever changing fashion.**

AND THE MERE MENTION OF MY THREE-LETTER NAME IS ENOUGH TO SEND CERTAIN WRITERS RUNNING TO TURN OUT SURE SELLING ARTICLES ON HOW HORRIBLE I AM. AS PUBLISHERS KNOW I'M GOOD COPY.

and with books themselves, as objects, with fine typography, printing and binding, especially with old illustrated books...

THIS PROBABLY WON'T BE MY USUAL LENGTHY EPISTLE AS WE WANT TO GET IT IN THE NOON MAIL...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only artists from Documenta V, who were also in When Attitudes Become Form and Lucy Lippard's book.

**NOTES 1986**

AND SINCE THERE'S SO MUCH INFORMATION AND MISINFORMATION ABOUT ME, IT'S EASY TO KEEP THE LSD POT BOILING. WELL, THAT SORT OF THING IS BAD FOR MY IMAGE, AS THE ADVERTISING PEOPLE SAY.

1957 had been a crucial year for him. He made his first film La Clef de l'Horloge which was shown at the international film festival of Knokke-le-Zoute.

PAPA HAS BEEN WORKING AROUND HERE, GETTING THINGS TRIMMED UP, AND WITH ALL US WORKING, WE HAVE THE PLACE LOOKING PRETTY GOOD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm confused. Does "Conceptual Painting" have anything to do with Conceptual Art? Or is it all Duchamp?

**"Forms of cultural expression tend to reveal unwanted information about the society that wishes to perceive them as peripheral."**

SENSATIONAL, SURE FIRE IN THE PAPERBACKS, BUT SO MUCH OF IT LACKS THE SAVING VIRTUE OF TRUTH. THERE HASN'T BEEN A CASE REPORTED YET WHERE I'VE POISONED ANYONE.

This was "un poème cinématographique" in honour of the artist Kurt Schwitters.

MR. ANDERSON CHOPPED HIS HEDGE DOWN AND DUG IT ALL UP SO THERE WILL BE NO MORE HEDGE. IT DIED OUT AGAIN THIS WINTER AND HE SAID HE WAS TOO OLD TO BE ALWAYS FUSSING WITH IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection as an excuse to stay away from CHELSEA. It scares me.

**The pure pleasure of the overlooked and the under-appreciated.**

(CUT TO CULT MEMBERS)
LSD: BUT SPEAKING FRANKLY, A LOT OF MY MOST ARDENT SUPPORTERS ARE BAD FOR MY IMAGE TOO.

He published his first book of poems, Mon Livre d'Ogre.
He took up photography and, in short, this year marked his public debut in the arts.

IT TAKES QUITE A BIT OF WORK TO KEEP IT LOOKING NICE AND TO HAVE IT DIE DOWN DUE TO BAD WINTERS IS TOO MUCH. NOW THAT WE ARE USED TO IT BEING GONE, I THINK IT IS NICER. MAKES OUR PLACE LOOK WIDER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to give us more breathing room. The Graffiti hallway was too much.

**THINGS THAT AREN'T ANYMORE** 1986.
**Utopia, Suburbs/Suburbia, 45 Rpm records, Artforum, The Vietnam War, Wimps,**

LIKE THESE THREE CLOWNS FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WHO ARE PLANNING THE BEGINNING OF SOMETHING THEY CALL ACID CITY.

Later he undertook some journalism and began to work on a bestiary, a book of animals in the tradition of La Fontaine.

YESTERDAY MR. A. CAME OVER WITH A ROBIN IN HIS HAND. IT HAD CAUGHT ITS FOOT IN A FENCE AND TORN IT ALMOST OFF. I GUESS HE DECIDED TO CUT IT CLEAR OFF AND LET IT GO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't want to move. And neither does Man Ray.

**The New Left, The Women's Movement, The Good Life, Split level / 2 cars in every garage, Free Speech Movement, Nostalgia, Point of view, Boy Scouts, "Dad's home",**

SO THAT'S THE SCENE. FOLKS LIKE THESE WHO LOVE ME AND THINK I BELONG IN EVERYONE'S BREAKFAST CEREAL.

However, it must be admitted that he remained on the fringe. His associates were among visual artists. One of these was Piero Manzoni.

HE WAS WONDERING WHETHER TO DO THAT OR KILL IT. WHEN MARTHA AND I WERE COMING UP THE ROAD YESTERDAY, A WILD DUCK FLEW RIGHT ACROSS IN FRONT OF US.

Honey, I rearranged the collection as a wedding present. Without art, where would we be?

**Grossingers, LP's, The Me Decade, The Klu Klux Klan, The John Birch Society, The 80's, Oldies, Collectivities, Farms, Rock and Roll.**

AND WAY OVER IN THE OTHER DIRECTION, THE FRIGHTFUL WITH THEIR SURE-SELL MAGAZINES AND COMIC BOOKS.

Manzoni charmed Broodthaers by his geniality and wit, while a certificate shows that Manzoni declared Broodthaers to be a "living sculpture" in 1962.

AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS A PHEASANT, BEING SO LARGE, BUT AS IT WENT OVER WE COULD SEE WHAT IT WAS. I HAVEN'T SEEN THE FOX AGAIN SO I GUESS HE WAS JUST VISITING!

Honey, I rearranged the collection in a series of three rooms. The magic number. Life is short in the first room. Art is long in the second. And experience is difficult in the third.

**THINGS THAT ARE BACK** 1986.
**Big Weddings, Fraternities/Sororities, Suburbs/Suburbia, Bert Parks, Men, Domesticity, Feminity,**

THINGS BEING WHAT THEY ARE, YOU REALLY CAN'T BLAME ME FOR WANTING TO PUT THE RECORD STRAIGHT. IT IS AS THEY SAY, TIME FOR THE FACTS HIGH TIME.

But he was not accepted into the established literary circles of Brussels still less of Francophone Europe.

THIS AFTERNOON DAD AND I ARE GOING OVER TO FOWLERS... WEDNESDAY WAS MY BOWLING LUNCHEON...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because objects speak louder than words and I know I am sometimes extraordinarily difficult to understand.

**Tie Dye, Smoking, Cameos, Liberal Arts, The Arms Freeze, Car Coats, The Short Story, Dale Carnegie, Political Theory, War Toys, Phils Ochs, Passion, Resolution, ROTC, Tradition, Racism,**

(CUT TO TALKING HEAD—KIDS)
"IT'S HARD REALLY TO PUT IT IN WORD FORM. YOU REALLY CAN'T TELL A PERSON WHAT IT'S LIKE UNLESS YOU'VE HAD THE EXPERIENCE FOR YOURSELF".

In November of 1963 he went to Paris accompanying a friend who was going to bring some works from an exhibition to the successful international avant-garde gallery of Ileana Sonnabend in Paris.

9:45 SUNDAY A.M. 5/19/63
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection starting with our choices of 30 years ago. Are we now "Historical Figures" for the rest of our lives?

**Republic Pictures, Taboos, The Blues, Blind Dates, Linoleum.**

"WORLD'S DIFFERENT"

He had seen work by Abstract Expressionists and by Arman and Manzoni but this show, which happened to be of an American artist, George Segal,

IT IS A BEAUTIFULLY BRIGHT MORNING, NOT TOO WARM, JUST 60 DEGREES NOW AND WAS 46 DEGREES OVERNIGHT, AND ONLY GOING UP TO ABOUT 65 OR 68 TODAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection around the subject of the "Collector" because on a bad day it's more interesting than the collection.

**We are in a time of fake art. Art masquerading as advertising design.**

"SOMEONE LIKE-AH-JOHN GLENN TRYING TO EXPLAIN WHAT HE SAW IN OUTER SPACE, I MEAN IT'S LIKE A VERY PERSONAL THING. IT'S NOT EASY TO DESCRIBE."

provoked a reaction that was confirmed by an encounter with the work of Dine, Lichtenstein and Oldenburg.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF SOME SHOWERS YESTERDAY AND CLEARING OVERNIGHT IT IS VERY CLEAR OUT SO I TOOK ANOTHER PICTURE FROM THE UPSTAIRS HALL WINDOW OUT OVER THE VALLEY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection acting as if I were a professor. Professor Know Nothing.

**FOR THE MAN WHO SITS ALONE 1986.**
**What God and I think about.**

LSD: NO, I'M NOT EASY TO DESCRIBE. I'M A COMPLICATED THING AND I'M HERE IN COMPLICATED TIMES AND IN COMPLICATED PLACES. BUT NOW LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I REALLY AM AND WHAT I REALLY DO.

It was his first real confrontation with the high intensity marketing which was propagating the new movement everywhere.

BEFORE I GET THROUGH I WILL HAVE A COMPLETE SET. THE TWO I HAVE ALREADY SHOW DIFFERENT TIMES AND SEASONS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection for the last time.

**States, Outer Space, At the beach, Summertime, Winter, Musical instruments, Zodiac signs, Breeds of dog, Camping, Forest Animals, Fish, Holidays, Hobbies and Collections, Spices,**

(CHART OF CHEMICAL COMPOUND MIXTURE)
CHEMICALLY I LOOK LIKE THIS, ATOMS OF OXYGEN LINKED WITH CARBON, NITROGEN, HYDROGEN, MUCH MORE COMPLICATED THAN SOME PEOPLE SEEM TO THINK.

He wrote an article: "Gare au défi!, Le Pop Art, Jim Dine et l'influence de René Magritte".

NO DOUBT YOU RECALL THE FALL SCENE TAKEN ABOUT NOON AND THE SUMMER SCENE TAKEN REAL EARLY SHOWING THE FOG IN THE VALLEY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by thinking only about the nationalities of the artists and not the works themselves. Sound familiar?

**Tools, Indians, Months, Pies, Fruits, CB slang, Cats, Fabrics, Baby animals, Farm animals, Vegetables, Cookingware, Threes, Appliances, Metals, Kinds of soup, Card games, Folk Heroes,**

IN FACT, THE SLIGHTEST CHANGE IN MY CHEMICAL STRUCTURE MAY RESULT IN PROFOUND CHANGES IN MY POTENCY, AS CERTAIN BLACK MARKET AMATEUR CHEMISTS HAVE FOUND OUT.

Gare au Défi! (The untranslatable title appears to be a Belgium idiomatic expression, meaning Beware! Defiance!) Pop Art, Jim Dine and the influence of René Magritte.
By Marcel Broodthaers, 1963.
Translated by Paul Schmidt.

NOW I WILL HAVE THIS ONE (HOPE IT IS GOOD) TAKEN AT 9:30 IN EARLY SPRING OR MORE LIKE MID-SPRING. NEXT I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A LATE AFTERNOON ONE AND THEN SOMETIME A WINTER ONE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and forget everything I know about art. I'm not a connoisseur and neither are you.

**Colors, Sports, Baseball, Football, Breakfast foods, Birds, Bodies of water, Insects, Flowers, Furniture, Kinds of meat, My relatives, Parts of the body, Fall, Presidents, Adultery, Fornication,**

ACTUALLY, I'M NOT VERY SPECTACULAR TO LOOK AT. I'M COLORLESS, ODORLESS, AND TASTELESS. IN FACT, I'M A KIND OF A NOTHING.

"First, let's think back of the ensembles by George Segal shown last month at the Sonnabend Gallery in Paris.

INCIDENTLY I PROMISED YOU SOME PICTURES BUT DID NOT COMPLETE THE ROLL YET...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm sick of thinking about art! It's boring.

**Uncleanliness, Lasciviousness, Idolatry, Witchcraft, Hatred, Variance, Emulation, Wealth, Strife, Sedition, Heresy, Envying, Murder, Drunkenness, Reveling, Divorce, Alcohol, Homosexuality,**

(WATER DROPS IMAGE)
BUT I'M ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL NOTHINGS THAT EVER CAME DOWN THE CHEMICAL ROAD.

This exhibition was the high point of "Nouveau Réalisme" and "Pop Art", which are so much talked about at the moment.

THINGS DO NOT LOOK TOO GOOD FOR OUR COMING OUT AS SOON AS SCHOOL LETS OUT...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that art has nothing to do with professors! Ugh!!

**Swearing, Hair, Smoking, Bastards, Guns, Sickness, Authentic subject matter.**

JUST ONE OF MY DROPS CAN BE ENOUGH FOR 500 AVERAGE DOSES. I'M SO POWERFUL THAT I EXERT AN EFFECT IN DOSES SMALLER THAN SUCH POTENT DRUGS AS STRYCHNINE OR CYANIDE.

Figurative art, perhaps, but so stripped down that it seems to fall into a special void. Segal's figures are crude casts of human beings caught in moments of everyday life.

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 1999
CLIFTON FADIMAN, A WORDSMITH KNOWN FOR HIS ENCYCLOPEDIC KNOWLEDGE, IS DEAD AT 95
BY RICHARD SEVERO

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind you that I used to collect comics before I met you.

**Maybe it should be a daily comic strip. Always being continued with more about what God and I think about. A daily panel strip with each panel adding another element.**

MY DISCOVERER FOUND THAT OUT BACK IN 1943 WHEN HE ACCIDENTLY INHALED A MICROSCOPIC SPECK OF ME AND THEN TOOK TO HIS BED WITH HALLUCINATIONS.

One man bends over the shining glass top of a pinball machine. Another sits on a crummy bench, holding a cheap china mug.

CLIFTON FADIMAN, THE ESSAYIST, CRITIC, EDITOR AND INDEFATIGABLE ANTHOLOGIST WHOSE ENCYCLOPEDIC KNOWLEDGE MADE HIM A MAINSTAY OF "INFORMATION PLEASE"

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and change the ideas about art that the trustees have when they come over tonight.

**Each panel adds another element over the course of the strip until there is so much in the final panel that it explodes. A color Sunday page. The Big Bang Theory.**

HOW CAN I TELL YOU HOW REALLY POWERFUL I AM?

The pinball machine and the mug are real objects. They are products made in a factory, not in an artist's studio.

AND OTHER POPULAR RADIO PROGRAMS IN THE LATE 1930'S, 40'S AND 50'S, DIED YESTERDAY ON SANIBLE ISLAND, FLA. HE WAS 95 AND LIVED ON THE NEARBY ISLAND OF CAPTIVA.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm tired of looking at the past.

**"The present is only ever understandable through the past, with which it forms a living continuity; and the past is always grasped from our own partial viewpoint within the present". Eagleton, Terry**

(IMAGE OF PIN ON FINGER)
THE HEAD OF A PIN CAN HOLD ENOUGH OF ME TO SEND A ROOM FULL OF PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR MINDS.

Nothing is to be expected from Segal's figures. Where do they come from? Why do they seem to threaten so? What strange lunar world produced them?

MR. FADIMAN, WHO ALSO HELPED ESTABLISH THE BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB AND SERVED ON ITS EDITORIAL BOARD FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS, WAS A BOOKWORM'S BOOKWORM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to feel young like our works. I want to be remembered young.

**"Every image of the past that is not recognized by the present as one of its own concerns threatens to disappear irretrievably". W. Benjamin**

A DOSE FOR ONE, THE POINT OF A PIN HOLDS PLENTY FOR A SOLO TRIP. TWENTY DOSES CAN BE PUT UNDER A STAMP. AN EYEDROPPER CAN CONTAIN ENOUGH FOR 10,000 DOSES.

I cannot say that they express terror without revealing my own terror. In this case we do not transcend the level of found object, or rather that of invention.

HE LEARNED TO READ WHEN HE WAS 4 AND NEVER GOT OVER IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by putting all the pieces back in their original positions from the 70's when we had the great parties with all the artists here.

**Like on a VCR - Fast Forward and Reverse are side by side.**

I'M MEASURED IN MILLIONTHS OF A GRAM CALLED MICROGRAMS OR GAMMAS. SO TINY THAT EVEN THE PRECISION LABORATORY SCALES LIKE THIS CAN'T BEGIN TO MEASURE ME ACCURATELY.

Such an extraordinary invention that it cancels out all the powers of imagination, or on the contrary, sets them free. That depends on the viewer's tendencies.

"WHEN I OPENED AND READ THE FIRST PAGE OF A BOOK FOR THE FIRST TIME, I FELT THIS WAS REMARKABLE: THAT I COULD LEARN SOMETHING VERY QUICKLY THAT I COULD NOT HAVE LEARNED ANY OTHER WAY", HE SAID.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if we have works by artists as they get older. Works from when they were 20, 30, 40, etc.

**THE SECRET LIFE OF THOMAS PYNCHON**
**By Mel Gussow**
**New York Times Service**

I CAN BE EITHER LIQUID OR SOLID. AND THE BLACK MARKET CHEMISTS WHO MAKE ME, PACKAGE ME IN CAPSULES AND TABLETS OF VARIOUS SIZES AND SHAPES.

The result is the same. The viewer has no other point of comparison than himself. This is Narcissus triumphant. This is black humor, so black it blinds us. This is, in fact, a lot of things at once...."

MR. FADIMAN ADDED THAT HE "GREW BUG-EYED OVER THE MIRACLE OF LANGUAGE" AND THAT HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR "DECODING THE BLACK SQUIGGLES ON WHITE PAPER" NEVER CEASED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that all the dealers who come to the party tonight will see that we are not the "fake clients" they thought we were.

**New York. In his private correspondence, Thomas Pynchon, a famously reclusive author, offers extraordinary insights into his creative process as well as his insecurities, angers and passions and his day-to-day life.**

THOUGH ALMOST ALWAYS THEY ADD SOMETHING ELSE TO GIVE ME BULK AND COLOR. ONE CONVENIENT TECHNIQUE IS TO DROP ME ONTO A SUGAR CUBE WHERE I REMAIN UNTIL USED.

The text continues and then concludes with these statements: "Let us rather look to René Magritte...

"ONE'S FIRST BOOK, KISS OR HOME RUN IS ALWAYS THE BEST", HE SAID.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are nice people.

**At various times, he questions his talent as a writer and calls one of his novels a potboiler.**

(SHOT OF BRAIN CROSS-SECTION)
THIS IS WHERE I HAVE MY EFFECT, IN THE MIND. THAT SEVEN INCHES OF INNER SPACE BETWEEN THE ROOT OF THE NOSE AND THE BACK OF THE HEAD.

Magritte denies the æsthetic nature of painting (which does not prevent him, almost in spite of himself, from creating some beautiful paintings)...

HIS INTEREST IN LITERATURE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A FORMIDABLE MEMORY. AND SO IT SEEMED HE WAS LITERALLY BORN TO BE AN ANTHOLOGIST;

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to please my father who is coming at 8.

But on at least one occasion, he is struck by a surge of self-confidence, envisioning himself as the subject of a battle among publishers for rights to his fiction.

IT IS ON ALL ACCOUNTS MAN'S MOST PRIZED POSSESSION AND IN MANY WAYS HIS MOST COMPLICATED. I'M LIKE A DEPTH CHARGE HERE AMONG THE BRAIN'S 12 BILLION CELLS.

All of Magritte's paintings are very well-known in New York. Magritte is famous.

OVER SIX DECADES, HE ASSEMBLED MORE THAN TWO DOZEN ANTHOLOGIES DEALING WITH EVERYTHING FROM THE BELIEFS OF LEADING INTELLECTUALS TO POETRY TO MATHEMATICS TO PROSE TO LIMERICKS AND THE ATROCIOUS PUN.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind myself of when I was young and art was cheap.

While rigorously guarding his privacy, he was also concerned, as most writers are, with contracts, royalties, book sales and reviews.

BUT IT'S ONE OF MY MOST PERPLEXING SECRETS THAT NO ONE REALLY KNOWS YET HOW I WORK.

Still faithful to his initial purpose, he continues to elaborate a poetic language aimed at undermining that upon which we depend.

IF HIS KNOWLEDGE SEEMED ENCYCLOPEDIC, IT WAS UNDERSTANDABLE; HE SERVED ON THE ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA'S EDITORIAL BOARD FOR MANY YEARS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to include only artists we have books on. Not catalogs but books.

When he was not writing, he was often reading and enjoying books by other contemporary authors or going to the movies, and he dreamed of being a film critic.

SOME HAVE SUGGESTED THAT I AFFECT THE MIDBRAIN, THE BRAIN'S COMPUTER, PREVENT IT FROM REGULATING SIGNALS FROM THE EYES AND EARS AND THE OTHER SENSE ORGANS.

Jim Dine's life-sized bowler hat is, I imagine, intended as a salute to Magritte. Does all this need an explanation?

HE ALSO CREATED TREASURY OF THE ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA, FOR WHICH HE READ OR SKIMMED APPROXIMATELY 200 YEARS OF THE ENCYCLOPEDIA'S EDITIONS AND CONDENSED THIS INTO A 700-PAGE VOLUME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by putting our original work–the Man Ray photo–with the new 90's photographers. Does it work?

**All this, and more, is revealed in more than 120 letters that Pynchon sent to his agent, Candida Donadio, from 1963 to 1982.**

BUT WHILE THERE IS MUCH UNCERTAINTY ABOUT HOW I WORK, THERE IS NO UNCERTAINTY ABOUT WHAT I CAN DO.

Is there any other explanation than the context of a world devoted to advertisements, overproduction and horoscopes?

HE ADMITTED HE HAD NOT READ EVERY WORD THE BRITANNIA HAD EVER PRINTED,

Honey, I rearranged the collection so it looks like a map of the world. One country, one artist. But only ones who are really identified with their country. Like Dali is Spanish and Bacon is English.

**In 1984, Carter Burden, the businessman, politician and arts patron, purchased the group of letters from Donadio for $45,000.**

(DISTORTED OBJECTS)
LSD: WITH JUST A FEW MICROGRAMS OF ME INSIDE THE BODY, COLORS, SHAPES, SMELLS, TEXTURES, THE WHOLE RANGE OF THINGS THAT CAN BE SEEN, HEARD, SMELLED, TOUCHED AND TASTED,

"In his first exhibition (1964) at the Galerie Saint-Laurent in Brussels, Broodthaers exhibited, among other objects, a sculpture consisting of the remaining copies of his book Pense-Bête;

BUT WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE OF HISTORY AND LITERATURE AND HIS ABILITY TO READ 80 PAGES AN HOUR, HE GOT THROUGH MORE OF THE ENCYCLOPEDIA THAN MOST PEOPLE WOULD...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I felt old. All our artists are dead.

**Last month, two years after Burden's death, his family presented his collection (valued at $8 million to $10 million) to the Pierpont Morgan Library.**

TAKE ON INCREDIBLE DISTORTIONS WHICH SEEM ABSOLUTELY AND TOTALLY REAL. WITH JUST A FEW MICROGRAMS OF ME, ALL SORTS OF HALLUCINATIONS ARE POSSIBLE.

these books, partially still bundled together in the original wrapping paper, were inserted into a base of plaster

KIP FADIMAN (FRIENDS CALLED HIM BY HIS CHILDHOOD NICKNAME) WAS ESPECIALLY PROUD OF HIS ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA ENTRY ON THE HISTORY OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE;

Honey, I rearranged the collection because we can't move anymore. Zurich was the last.

**While the letters were in Burden's possession, only he and his family had access to them. By fall, those letters should be available to scholars.**

(VOICE OVER)
"I COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING EXCEPT COLORS, AND I THOUGHT, WELL, YOU KNOW, THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE REALITY, BUT IT WASN'T.

that barely covered their lower half, allowing them to be removed with ease from the assemblage object.

TO STUDY THE SUBJECT HE LEARNED TO READ CHILD-LEVEL ITALIAN, SPANISH, SWEDISH AND DUTCH WHEN HE WAS IN HIS 70'S.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to separate works we got from studios from those we bought in galleries.

**In them is a rich treasure of Pynchoniana.**

IT WASN'T ANYTHING EXCEPT JUST THINGS THAT WEREN'T OBJECTS. YOU KNOW AFTER A WHILE YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND YOU DON'T KNOW WHO THE OTHER PERSON IS.

This plaster pedestal extends from the book bundle across a wooden base serving as the support for the assemblage to hold at its other end a plastic ball that Broodthaers had inserted into the soft material.

IN THE 1940'S AND 50'S, MR. FADIMAN'S PRESENCE IN AND INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN INTELLECTUAL LIFE WERE UBIQUITOUS. HE PRIDED HIMSELF ON HIS SKILL AS A POPULARIZER

Honey, I rearranged the collection substituting books for paintings.

**Pynchon is, along with J.D. Salinger, one of the mystery men of American letters.**

HAPPENING, IT'S HAPPENING SO FAST, AND YOU CAN'T STOP IT, AND YOU JUST CAN'T DO ANYTHING. YOU HAVE TO JUST STAY THERE AND GO THROUGH IT."

The surface of the plaster is not smooth, but marked by the impressions of fingers. On the whole the work gives the sense of being improvisatory...

AND ON HIS ABILITY TO MAKE LOFTY SUBJECTS ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WHO LACKED HIS EDUCATION AND ACUITY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the fundamentals of trash sorting!

Very little is known about his life, he is never knowingly photographed, and his curtain of secrecy is maintained by relatives and friends.

LSD: WITH MY HELP ALL KINDS OF THINGS ARE POSSIBLE. THE MOST DANGEROUS ACT CAN LOOK ATTRACTIVE AND EASY TO ACCOMPLISH BECAUSE I CAN MAKE THOSE SPARKLING LIGHTS LOOK COLORFUL AND INVITING.

In an ironic gesture Broodthaers feigned surprise when he commented subsequently on the fact that the spectator did not recognize the books as real objects and did not even attempt to appropriate them by reading:

THIS MADE HIM THE TARGET OF SUCH CRITICS AS DWIGHT MACDONALD, WHO IN THE 1950'S ACCUSED HIM OF BEING A HIGH PRIEST OF "MIDCULT",

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I didn't want to go to the ballet. I hate those people.

**During the two decades of the correspondence, he and his agent were evidently close friends, and he unburdened himself about deeply personal matters.**

A MOVING TAPESTRY WHICH CAN BECKON AND LURE THE TRAVELER TO JOIN THEM (CAR HORNS).

"Here you cannot read the book without destroying its sculptural aspect. It is a concrete gesture that passes the prohibition on to the viewer, at least that's what I thought would happen.

CONTAMINATING AMERICAN CULTURE WITH WHAT MR. MACDONALD SAW AS THE "TEPID OOZE" A PHONY INTELLECT. OTHER CRITICS SAID THAT MR. FADIMAN'S CREATIVITY WAS NOT THE EQUAL OF HIS MEMORY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by applying card suit marking–hearts, diamonds, etc.–to our collection index cards and then shuffled them like a deck of cards. The winning hand was the works which I hung in the main room.

**The exchange begins in 1963, the year that Pynchon's masterly novel, "V", was published, and continues through the time he was working on "Gravity's Rainbow", published in 1973.**

WELL, THAT'S JUST A ROUGH IDEA OF WHAT A FEW MICROGRAMS OF ME CAN DO. ABOUT THE SAME AMOUNT THAT YOU SAW ON THE POINT OF THE PIN, REMEMBER?

But I was surprised to find that viewers reacted quite differently from what I had imagined.

BUT MR. FADIMAN WAS NEVER DEFENSIVE ABOUT WHAT HE WAS OR WHAT HE DID.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and remember the days when I had the gallery. It was so exciting then.

**He moved from Mexico to California, from Texas to London, trying to preserve his anonymity and privacy.**

BUT IN SPITE OF MY OVERWHELMING POWER I HAVE YET TO KILL ANYONE FROM AN OVERDOSE. THEY DON'T THINK I'M PHYSIOLOGICALLY ADDICTING.

Everyone so far, no matter who, has perceived the object either as an artistic expression or a curiosity. Look! Books in plaster!

"I AM NOT A PROFOUND THINKER", HE ONCE SAID. HE SAID HE SAW HIMSELF RATHER AS A GUIDE, SOMEONE WHO COULD HELP OTHER READERS PICK THE TITLES THAT SUITED THEM...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I always wanted to be an artist.

Occasionally, he appeared in public, at one point acting as best man at the wedding of the writer Richard Farina.

AND WHEN I'M SWALLOWED I DISAPPEAR, BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T YET PERFECTED A GOOD FIELD TEST TO DETECT ME INSIDE THE BODY. ALTOGETHER, I AM ONE OF THE MOST PERPLEXINGLY POWERFUL DRUGS CONCEIVABLE.

No one had any curiosity about the text; nobody had any idea whether this was the final burial of prose or poetry, of sadness or pleasure". Dieter Schwarz, October 24, 1987

MARCH 8, 1964
SUNDAY A.M. 9:30
DEAR ALLEN

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I have secret conversations with each work. We have our own language and each rearrangement is the result of a dialogue. This is dialogue #10.

**The letters are brightened by the author's gift for language and his mischievous sense of comedy, with which he assails publishers, critics and politicians.**

(DOCTOR IMAGE)
YOUR DOCTOR CAN'T PRESCRIBE ME. YOUR DRUGGIST CAN'T SELL ME. AND VERY FEW SCIENTISTS ARE ABLE OR WILLING TO TEST ME, AND THE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES WON'T MAKE ME.

"Between 1963 and approximately 1967, Broodthaers was specifically and historically confronting Pop Art and Nouveau Réalisme, both of which made use of commonly sold commercial products.

MOM IS UPSTAIRS WORKING ON THE SECOND PAGE OF HER LETTER WHILE I WRITE THIS BEFORE CHURCH, SO WE CAN MAIL IT, MAYBE YOU'LL GET IT TOMORROW...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to some old ideas from advertising about art.

**When he hears that the humorist H. Allen Smith has written an article for Playboy claiming to be both J.D. Salinger and Thomas Pynchon,**

AND ABOUT THE ONLY LABS I SHOW UP IN ANYMORE ARE THE CRIME LABS AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS BECAUSE I'M SO PERPLEXINGLY POWERFUL THAT I'M ILLEGAL.

The objects he chose to incorporate into his own works were associated with the traditional good things of life: simple foods and household objects, often his own.

ALLEN, I AM QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT A CLASSIFICATION NOTICE RECEIVED LAST SATURDAY OR MONDAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists who hate each other and who hate their dealers (that we also hate).

he says "What no one knows is that Smith is actually Pierre Salinger and I am H. Allen Smith".

FEDERAL LAW CONTROLS MY MANUFACTURE, SALE, TRANSPORTATION AND DELIVERY. AND IN CALIFORNIA, WHERE I AM LISTED IN THE DANGEROUS DRUG ACT, LAW PROHIBITS MY MANUFACTURE, TRANSPORTATION, SALE, POSSESSION OR PUBLIC USE.

The physical relationships between his objects stand for relationships of common practical usage: mussels to cooking pots, chips to serving dishes, eggs to tables on which they are eaten, etc."

IF I HAD KNOWN WHERE TO CALL YOU I WOULD HAVE SO WE COULD HAVE CHECKED WITH THE BOARD SOONER. THEY HAVE CLASSIFIED YOU 1-A AND YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO WRITE WITHIN TEN DAYS IF YOU WISH TO QUESTION IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind you to put some more money in the bank.

**When asked about the Pynchon letters, Donadio, who lives in Connecticut said:**

SO VERY OFTEN I WIND UP HERE, TAGGED AS EVIDENCE ALONG WITH OTHER ILLEGAL DRUGS, LIKE HEROIN, AND OPIUM, AND MARIJUANA, AND BENNIES, AND GOOFERS, AND YELLOWJACKETS, AND CRYSTAL AND THE REST.

"Four forms are necessary for me, mussel, egg, the pot which I already feel capable of filling.

DID YOU COMPLETE THAT FORM WHICH WAS MAILED SOMETIME AGO? I HOPE SO BUT WHY ARE YOU 1-A?

Honey, I rearranged the collection into 2 categories: didactic/boring and pictures.

**"I never talked about Thomas Pynchon when I represented him. He was so terribly private."**

BUT THEY USE THE MOST SENSITIVE TEST THEY HAVE TO IDENTIFY ME. THIS ONE'S CALLED THIN LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY, USEFUL BECAUSE I CAN BE MADE TO FLUORESCE UNDER ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT.

And the Heart... What attaches me still to the heart is respect for certain values. Rimbaud. Especially Arthur Rimbaud, the model of revolt." M.B., 1966

AT ANY RATE THIS MORNING WAS THE FIRST I REALLY READ THE INSTRUCTIONS AND SINCE THE 10 DAYS ARE UP, MONDAY I'LL EITHER CALL OR GO IN TO SEE WHAT THE SCORE (NOT THE HAIR DRESSING) IS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection just to try and remember everything!

**She added that it was "a matter of honor" not to talk about him now.**

AND MY UNIQUE CHEMICAL FINGERPRINTS CAN BE IDENTIFIED ON THE GRAPH OF INSTRUMENTS LIKE THE SPECTROPHOTOMETER WHICH CAN DETECT AS LITTLE AS 10 MICROGRAMS OF ME.

"All is eggs. The world is an egg. The world born of the great yolk, the sun. Our Mother, the moon, is covered with eggshell.

IN THE MEANTIME I'M HOLDING THE CARD HERE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to feel normal again.

Pynchon, of course, could not be reached for comment, but through his lawyer, Jeremy Nussbaum, he expressed his acute concern that Donadio had sold the letters.

MUCH LESS THAN A PINPOINT CAN HOLD. BUT AS NARCOTICS OFFICERS KNOW SO WELL, I KEEP SHOWING UP IN SPITE OF THE LAWS. BECAUSE IF YOU HAVE THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS, I'M NOT TO HARD TO MANUFACTURE.

And the belly of a wabe is white. A heap of eggshells, the moon. Dust of eggshells the stars. All, dead eggs." M.B., 1965

I AM ENCLOSING A CHECK FOR $75.00 SO YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT RUNNING OUT OF MONEY RIGHT AWAY...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to make it look more like it would in the museum. If they would take it.

**"It's a rather startling event", said Nussbaum. "I've never heard of an agent selling letters of a client, except after the death of the client.**

(POLICE RAID ON LAB)
AND THE BLACK MARKET BOYS HAVE SET UP THEIR AMATEUR LABORATORIES IN SOME STRATEGIC LOCATIONS LIKE THIS ONE SERVED WITH A WARRANT AND THEN RAIDED JUST A WHILE AGO.

"In 1966, after several changes in lodging, Broodthaers and his family settled at 30 rue de la Pépinière,

HOW MUCH DOES A TELEPHONE COST PER MONTH AFTER YOU HAVE PAID THE INSTALLATION?...

Honey, I rearranged the collection in accord with the number of parties we have seen each artist at. The most number of parties or dinners the more works are up. Openings are not included.

**They were entrusted to her in a relationship of confidence, and they were sold against his wishes."**

AMATEUR ACID MADE IN AMATEUR LABS BY AMATEUR CHEMISTS. WHEN I'M COMPOUNDED IN DIRTY LABS LIKE THIS, IT ISN'T SURPRISING THAT I'M OFTEN CONTAMINATED WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES,

where they occupied four floors of a house that was to play a conspicuous part in Broodthaers' practice as an artist.

OCTOBER 6, 1965
TUESDAY MORNING
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the artists who complain and those who don't.

**THEY ALWAYS COME BACK**
**Where's Al? Part Two: The Sequel 1998**

AND THAT MY QUALITY IS UNPREDICTABLE; 200 MICROGRAMS OR 2000, PURE LSD OR MIXED UP WITH SOMETHING ELSE.

By this time almost all the furnishings of the house had been turned into works of art,not only because they were materials that did not have to be purchased,

SINCE DAD SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO BE SENDING YOU A CHECK I THOUGHT I'D BETTER HAVE A LETTER TO GO ALONG WITH IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to remind us what fun it is to buy art, and live downtown.

**THE PITCH**: This is a story of an artist who invents his own disappearence and the unexpected consequences for the friends who conspire to help him.

(SHADOWY FIGURES)
ON THE CONSUMER LEVEL, THAT MEANS THAT WHEN THE LSD TRAVEL AGENT SELLS A CAP OR TWO, THE CUSTOMER CAN'T TRUST THE LABEL BECAUSE THERE ISN'T ANY LABEL. SO HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING?

but also because they were of basic types formed by tradition and human usage.

WE BOTH FELT SORTA' DOWN AFTER TALKING TO YOU AS YOU SOUNDED RATHER THAT WAY YOURSELF.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show the "holes" in it according to you know who.

**His secret motives become a game for the main characters to play as they gather for the four-day celebration of a 35th Wedding Anniversary in El Paso, Texas.**

(VOICE OVER)
"YOU DON'T KNOW UNLESS YOU TAKE IT, WHETHER ITS GOOD OR BAD".

The same year saw Broodthaers' first one man exibition outside Belgium. It was in Paris...

I'M AFRAID WE WEREN'T MUCH HELP TO YOU IN YOUR THINKING. SURE WISH IT DIDN'T HAVE TO BE DONE-THE DISCUSSING, THAT IS, OVER LONG-DISTANCE TELEPHONING OR BY LETTER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and eliminated all the Americans.

**The first person to unravel the mystery wins the game, but as the plot develops the characters themselves begin to mysteriously disappear**

"YOU JUST HAVE TO TRUST YOUR SOURCE".

In addition to pieces with egg and mussel shells were some in which repetitious eyes or mouths, clipped from advertisements, were placed in glass preserve jars.

NEITHER ONE IS SATISFACTORY. THE TELEPHONING IS SO SHORT AND WRITING IS DIFFICULT TO GET YOUR MEANING ACROSS WITHOUT SOUNDING "PREACHY" OR UNSYMPATHETIC.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using a vase, a book and a piece of furniture as sight lines for our best piece. See it?

**and in the end there is only one left (alive) to answer the question of Why.**

"WELL, WHEN YOU TAKE IT, YOU FIND OUT".

However, the jars are also containers in which food is kept and sold, so Broodthaers was preserving a commercial illusion instead of a real commodity.

IT IS A TIME IN YOUR LIFE THAT IS HARD TO COPE WITH. EVEN WITHOUT THE WAR PROBLEM IT WOULDN'T BE EASY, AS YOU ARE DECIDING YOUR FUTURE. IT WASN'T EASY WHEN WE WERE GOING THROUGH IT TOO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that all the works are hung by the age of the artist when he made the work. Oldest first.

**This horror/drama can be seen as a meeting of The Big Chill and Scream.**

LSD: GOOD ACID, BAD ACID, BUT ALWAYS UNPREDICTABLE ACID. I'M AROUND PART OF THE SCENE, AS I SAID. AND ON STREETS LIKE THIS, AND THIS, AND THIS, AND THIS, TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING ME TAKE PLACE ALL THE TIME.

About this time (1966) Broodthaers discovered and began to make use of canvas coated with photographic emulsion.

WE HAD NO MONEY, IT WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A DEPRESSION AND WE COULDN'T AFFORD A PLACE OF OUR OWN,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show how many pieces we have bought each year. We have bought 2,343 pieces in just over 3 years.

**Question: Who is Al and what happened to him?**
**Answer: (At a downtown hotel in El Paso, Texas, July 4th Weekend, 1997).**

ILLEGAL, OF COURSE, BUT MY TABS AND CAPS AND SUGARCUBES THAT DISSOLVE IN YOUR MIND AS WELL AS YOUR MOUTH ARE SELLING EVERY DAY.

This allowed him to make "paintings" of things, by means of a technique that was evidently not dependant on his own manual representational skill.

BUT DAD DID HAVE A JOB AND MY FOLKS NEEDED OUR HELP WHICH BALANCED THE BOARD AND ROOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because the appraiser is coming in tomorrow.

**There is a gathering of old friends for a 4-day celebration of a favorite couples 35th wedding anniversary. One of the couples oldest friends fails to show up.**

SO DROP A CAP OF ME AND JOIN THE MIND EXPANDING WORLD WHERE COLORS AND SOUNDS AND SMELLS AND TASTES AND PEOPLE, ALL TAKE ON NEW DIMENSIONS AND NEW QUALITIES.

It would be difficult for people to endow them with the mystique of the painter. Broodthaers used the medium to reproduce texts, either hand-written or already printed."

I FEEL THAT MAYBE I WAS MORE READY TO TAKE THE CHANCE THAN DAD BECAUSE HE WAS THE ONE WHO WAS PROMISING TO TAKE ON THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A WIFE FOR THE YEARS TO COME.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show how much room we have for more art. We need more drawings.

**There is much speculation as to why he isn't there and to what might have happened to him.**

I'M THE WORLD'S ORIGINAL INSTANT RELIEF DRUG. DROP A CAP OF ME, MAN, AND DROP OUT. BUT WATCH IT BECAUSE THE TRIP CAN BE A TRAP TOO. YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE A TICKET WITH ME WILL TAKE YOU.

"I have been using since 1967 photo-canvases, films, slides to establish the relationships between the object and the image of that object,

MAYBE YOU ARE IN THE SAME SET-UP WITH JULIE AS FAR AS DECISIONS GO, REGARDING THE MARRIAGE PART. THE PAINTING FIELD IS ANOTHER THING;

Honey, I rearranged the collection and installed only the works we searched hardest for, and that I feel the most certain about their long-time value.

**Someone then remembers that the same thing happened twenty-five years ago at the 10th wedding anniversary party in Pismo Beach, California.**

(TRIPPING PEOPLE)
"WHERE ARE YOU MAN?"
"LOOK, SHE'S GOING MAN".

and also those that exist between the sign and the meaning of a particular object: writing.

WHETHER OR NOT TO CHANGE SCHOOLS NOW OR LATER, OR WHETHER TO CHANGE AT ALL. THIS IS A CHOICE THAT YOU HAVE TO MAKE BUT I WOULD CERTAINLY NOT MAKE IT WITHOUT LOOKING INTO ALL ANGLES OF IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in the same way as the record collection but different from the rare books.

**In a flashback we see scenes of the first event and some of the same people twenty-five years younger.**

(SCREAMING TRIPPERS)
LSD: LET ME GIVE YOU AN IDEA, JUST THE BAREST IDEA OF WHAT A BUM TRIP CAN BE LIKE. VOICES COURTESY OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN THERE.

Today, when the image destined for current consumption credits itself with the subleties and violences of Nouveau Réalisme and Pop Art,

I KNOW IT IS EASY FOR US TO SAY, BUT TRY NOT TO LET ONE DECISION INFLUENCE THE OTHER. IF YOU FEEL YOU SHOULD GO TO NEW YORK FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR CAREER DON'T RUSH INTO A WEDDING THAT YOU AREN'T READY FOR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by artists associated with the Frankfurt School and those who know nothing about it. Artists from the 80's mostly.

**There are asking about their good friend Al, filling in aspects of his character as they question why he is not there.**

UTTERLY FANTASTIC, UTTERLY TERRIFYING, UTTERLY POWERFUL AND UTTERLY UNPREDICTABLE. I HAVE EVEN BEEN KNOWN TO CARRY A PASSENGER INSIDE THE PULSING REDNESS OF HIS OWN BEATING HEART AND LEAVE HIM THERE.

I would like the definitions of art to support a critical view as much of society as of art and art criticism itself.

HERE AGAIN, I'M WONDERING ABOUT THINGS THAT MAY NEVER EVEN ENTER THE PICTURE JUST BECAUSE THERE IS NO OPPORTUNITY TO TALK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with works that seemed relevant at the time and are now passé but which we still like.

**They never answer the question and it is never established as to what happened to him.**

MOST PEOPLE SURVIVE EVEN A REALLY BAD TRIP. WITH AN INJECTION OF ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL TRANQUILIZERS KNOWN, THEY CAN GET SAFELY BACK TO REALITY.

The language of words must be reunited with that of words. There are no "Primary Structures"." M.B., 1968

IF YOU THOUGH IT WAS IN THE OFFING I WISH YOU HAD WANTED TO TALK ABOUT IT WHILE YOU WERE HERE. ALL MY COMMENTS ARE JUST GUESS-WORK SO IF THEY AREN'T APROPOS JUST MAKE OUT AS IF I DIDN'T SAY IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists other artists contend are "garbage" in one room and the works artists like in the other.

**Back in El Paso, the children of this generation and their assembled friends begin asking their own questions about who this person is (or was) and why anybody should care.**

BUT NOT ALL, BECAUSE YOU SEE IT'S TRUE THAT TRIPPERS HAVE INJURED THEMSELVES, SOMETIMES SERIOUSLY. AND ONE OF THE MOST TERRIFYING THINGS OF ALL IS TRUE TOO, A BUM TRIP'S HALLUCINATIONS CAN RECUR AT ANY TIME IN ALL THEIR ORIGINAL INTENSITY, UP TO A YEAR AFTER THE ORIGINAL DOSE.

Intermission: Musée d'Art Moderne, Département des Aigles, Section XIXe Siècle opens on the ground floor of his house.

THIS PIECE ABOUT THE DRAFT WAS IN THE PAPER LAST WEEK SO THOUGH I'D SEND IT ALONG...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see all the works we have gotten from other people's collections.

**What does it matter where he is, they ask. They begin making up their own stories about this missing "Al".**

SOME CALL IT AN AFTERFLASH AND ITS NOT FUN AT ALL. ONCE I'VE BEEN SWALLOWED IT'S PRATICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO TRACE ME INSIDE THE BODY. SO NOT EVEN THE CORONER KNOWS HOW TO TELL WHETHER OR NOT I WAS PART OF THIS SCENE.

An open letter of 10 May 1969 hints that he saw a chance to extend the scope of his activity; it says "I love Düsseldorf" and speaks of places and artists,

YOU KNOW, ITS THE FUNNIEST THING... WHEN I CALL UP A MENTAL PICTURE OF YOU I CAN'T, NO MATTER HOW I TRY, BRING ONE OF YOU WITH YOUR BEARD. I ALWAYS SEE YOU AS YOU WERE BEFORE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to 2 categories: nice and not nice.

**Their stories are much more elaborate than their parents, and a competition begins between the generations to see who can solve the mystery.**

(CAR CRASH)
TWISTING THE DRIVER'S BRAIN CELLS UNTIL HE TRIPPED OUT THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD.

including Joseph Beuys, who was becoming the most respected German artist of his day and whose work Broodthaers respected.

GUESS I HAVE A MENTAL BLOCK REGARDING THAT. PERHAPS THAT WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT TO MY PSYCHOLOGIST IF I HAD ONE! OR MAYBE IT MEANS THAT YOU SHAVED IT OFF.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using artists with narrow social themes and artists with broad romantic ones.

**It now seems to everyone that this event has become like a sequel to the previous one held in 1972.**

(HOTLINE CALLER)
LSD: AND IT'S TRUE THAT THE EFFECTS AND AFTER-EFFECTS OF BAD TRIPS CAN BE SO SEVERE THAT SPECIAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE SAN FRANCISCO'S LSD RESCUE HAVE BEEN SET UP.

By the end of the year it seemed that the house in the rue de la Pépinière would be pulled down, and Broodthaers, with Maria and Marie-Puck moved to Düsseldorf.

THE RAINS SEEMED TO HAVE STOPPED, TEMPORARILY AND YESTERDAY AND TODAY ARE BRIGHT AND SUNNY, ALTHO' COLD...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I can't remember individual works anymore and it gives me something to do.

**It is rumored that he is dead and they set off to discover what may have happened to him.**

AND CRISIS COUNSELORS WORK IN SHIFTS TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY TO CALM AND GUIDE THOSE WHO PANICKED AND FREAKED OUT. IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.

In Germany (principally Düsseldorf and Cologne) Broodthaers found himself treated as a member of a community of equals. Nevertheless Broodthaers was not considered to be quite serious.

TODAY IS MY BRIDGE CLUB SO WILL HAVE TO STOP AND GET READY AS I AM BEING PICKED UP AT 12:15, ABOUT A HALF-HOUR FROM NOW...

Honey, I rearranged the collection using the works we have never had up before but can't remember how they were assembled in the first place. Mostly things from the 70's.

**It is thought, at first, to be just a good game since many people have heard from him periodically over the years, thus making it highly unlikely that he is really dead.**

THIS GUY KNOWS, HE CALLED LSD RESCUE 24 HOURS AGO AND HE'S JUST ABOUT GOT HIMSELF UNDER CONTROL NOW.

For one thing his work and conversation had too much wit and ambiguity;

HAVE YOUR HEARD ANYTHING FROM BILL RICHMOND? OR BILL KELLOGG?...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't really think of myself as a collector. You are.

**In fact, their friend Al, an artist, has been planning, not so secretively, his complete disappearence for over thirty years.**

(VOICE OVER)
"DID THAT SERVE TO FRIGHTEN YOU EVEN MORE?"

for another, it was to difficult to consider him the protagonist of any movement and he resisted demands to make major works,

NOVEMBER 15, 1965
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection in an attempt to put some order into my life after having none. Happy now?

**And seemingly in collaboration with some of the same people who are now asking where he is.**

"YEAH, BECAUSE I FELT LIKE SOMEHOW I WAS BEING TWISTED OUT OF SHAPE, UM, AND THAT, AH, I WAS SOMEHOW NOT A HUMAN BEING".

such as could dominate in collections and museums and would define his style.

IT'S TOO BAD THAT YOU GET BEHIND IN YOUR WRITING SO THAT YOU USE ALL YOUR STAMPS ON SPECIAL DELIVERY. HOWEVER WE WERE AWFUL GLAD TO GET IT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection in a totally new way. I took the number of pieces we have in total and then added up the number of parts in each of them. I then divided the sum of the parts by the total and distributed them evenly so that now each piece has the same number of parts. Its mostly 70's narrative stuff.

**It remains a game until someone is found dead in their room.**

"DID YOU HAVE A THOUGHT THAT YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO CHANGE BACKWARDS AGAIN?"

He always avoided the obviously heroic gesture.

I JUST COULDN'T SETTLE DOWN TO DOING ANYTHING AFTER THE REGULAR MAIL CAME AND THERE WASN'T ANY. AS YOU SAID, YOUR LAST LETTER WAS PRETTY STRONG AND WE COULDN'T HELP BUT BE CONCERNED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection 5 times since you went out. I was so angry I couldn't buy anything new.

**FIRST DRAFT**

"YES, THIS IS ONE OF THE MAIN THINGS THAT SCARED ME. IS IT PERMANENT? WOULD IT MAKE ME SOME KIND OF A FREAK?"

Early in 1973, Broodthaers moved to England where, he said, no one would notice him for at least two years. That prediction was not entirely vindicated.

I'M GLAD YOU THINK WE HAVE BEEN WORTH SOMETHING AS PARENTS. SOMETIMES YOU THINK YOU ARE STUMBLING DOWN THE ROAD IN THE DARK

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind myself that we have all these pieces and that we can buy more!

**THE SCREEN IS BLACK.**
**The soft sounds of WATER LAPPING, Small SPLASHES.**

LSD: AND IT HAPPENS WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY THAT THOSE WHO TRIP WITH ME FIND THEIR WAY HERE TO NEUROPSYCHIATRIC CENTERS LIKE THIS ONE AT SAN FRANCISCO'S MCAULEY INSTITUTE OF ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

He had a show at the Jack Wendler Gallery at the end of 1972 and another at the Petersburg Press at the beginning of 1973, both in London,

WITHOUT THE FAINTEST IDEA OF WHETHER YOU ARE DOING RIGHT OR WRONG... AT LEAST THAT HAS BEEN MY FEELING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection since the museum doesn't like it as it is. Now it has their categories. 'A' artists, 'B' artists, etc.

**Now comes the VOICE OF A FIFTY-FIVE-YEAR OLD WOMAN... talking, laughing and then short bits of singing.**

(STRUGGLING PATIENT)
AND IT TAKES A WHILE, SOMETIMES A CONSIDERABLE WHILE, AND THE SKILLFUL ATTENTION OF PSYCHIATRISTS

and he had already made some friends there, including the Pop pioneer Richard Hamilton and the Argentinean artist David Lamelas; he also knew Gilbert and George.

I NEVER COULD BELIEVE THAT JUST BY BEING A MOTHER MADE ONE INFALLIBLE OR RATING A SEAT ON A PEDESTAL. IT ALWAYS KINDA ANNOYS ME WHEN PEOPLE MAKE SO MUCH ABOUT BEING

Honey, I rearranged the collection starting with the biggest piece with the most parts and ending with the smallest piece with no parts.

**A MAN'S VOICE** chuckles in response, coaxes gently for more.

TO GAIN THE CONFIDENCE AND COOPERATION OF PATIENTS WHO HAVE TRIPPED BADLY WITH ME. IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO UNDO WHAT I HAVE DONE.

But London was indeed quiet compared with Germany. Broodthaers had discovered, while in Germany,

THE MOTHER OF 10 OR 15 KIDS, AS IF THEY HAD CONTRIBUTED SOMETHING GREAT TO CIVILIZATION INSTEAD OF ADDING TO A FAMILY THEY CAN'T PROPERLY TAKE CARE OF.

Honey, I rearranged the collection starting with the smallest piece by a minor artist.

**FADE IN:**
**INT. BATHROOM, HOTEL EL CAMINO REAL (EL PASO, TEXAS)—NIGHT.**

(VOICE OVER)
"YOU LOOK A LITTLE FRIGHTENED TO US AND WE WANT TO HELP YOU. ONE OF THE THINGS WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO DO BEFORE WE TALK IS TO TAKE SOME MEDICATION TO HELP YOU COME DOWN. PUT THE PILL IN YOUR MOUTH".

the extensive damage to his liver and was warned to change his diet and to drink no alcohol, which made social life in England difficult.

ALSO ALL THE TO-DO ABOUT THE GOLD STAR MOTHERS 'GIVING THEIR SONS FOR THEIR COUNTRY'-NO MOTHER EVER GAVE HER SON FOR ANY CAUSE. HE WASN'T HERS TO GIVE!

Honey, I rearranged the collection starting with 2 artists whose names and works are interchangeable.

**JO HARVEY** is taking a bath. She toys with a glass of champagne and continues to sing as her husband **TERRY** shaves at the sink next to the tub.

LSD: BUT FOR AN INCREASING NUMBER OF TRIPPERS THIS TOO IS TRUE BECAUSE THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION WITH ME CAN BE AND HAS BEEN HERE IN THE MORGUE.

Among the most elegant of the works that treat the matter of painting are the sets of nine canbases which Broodthaers began to produce in 1972.

I AM SURPRISED YOU DIDN'T GET OUR LETTER AND HOPE IT FINALLY CAME. GLAD YOU GOT THE BOX SO THAT IT HELPED ALLAY THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF NOT GETTING THE JOB. WHAT WAS IT TO BE?

Honey, I rearranged the collection with the best ugly artist and the worst good-looking one. Male-male, male-female, gay-straight, etc.

**He, like his wife, is in his mid-fifties. Jo Harvey knows nearly all the words to the 60's rock classic,**

LSD USER HANGS SELF. LSD USER COMMITS SUICIDE. YES, IT'S TRUE. AND SO THE LAST VOICE HEARD AT THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION CAN BE AND HAS BEEN THE AUTOPSY SURGEONS.

The first set was exhibited at the Galerie Yvon Lambert in Paris, October–December 1972, in a group exhibition called Actualité d'un Bilan (News of a Balance Sheet).

YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING EXCEPT THAT YOUR PAINTINGS WEREN'T RIGHT SO I ASSUME THAT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN IN SOME NEW SHOP OR SOMETHING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using the pieces I liked the best and the ones you hate the most.

**"Hey Joe" (where you goin' with that gun in your hand), by The Leaves. She needs only intermittent coaching from Terry. They are both very happy.**

CORONER "THE BODY IS THAT OF A WELL-DEVELOPED, WELL-NOURISHED TEENAGE MALE APPEARING THE STATED AGE, RIGOR MORTIS IS PRESENT THROUGHOUT, AND IS PRESENT OVER THE DORSAL ASPECTS OF THE BODY".

The canbases were arranged in three rows of three. Words, dates and printers' debices are printed on them in carefully chosen display type, forming short sentences,

WAS THE FILM RIGHT? BE SURE AND SEND US A PICTURE OF YOUR PAINTING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to which galleries we bought them from and which museum wants them.

**In the adjacent bedroom, the telephone begins to ring. After a few rings Terry puts the razor down and with soap still on his face, picks it up.**

LSD: AND SO I'M DEPRESSED, DEPRESSED BECAUSE I'M SO BADLY MISUSED AND ABUSED BY THOSE WHO KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT ME. GOOD TRIPS WITH ME, PROFOUND MIND-EXPANDING INSIGHTS ABOUT ONESELF AND ONE'S UNIVERSE.

generally the name of a French writer and an apparently arbitrary verb "André Gide fume" (smokes), "Paul Valéry boit" (drinks), "René Magritte écrit" (writes).

DAD AND I HAD A NICE TIME ON OUR ANNIVERSARY...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to showcase all the pieces the museum thinks are worthless.

**Jo Harvey glances in at her husband who she can see from her spot in the bathtub. She takes the last swig of champagne and sings again the lines of the song about "going down to Mexico".**

YES, FOR SOME PEOPLE UNDER SOME CONDITIONS, I HAVE BEEN AND I CAN BE A MOST AWE-INSPIRING WAY. FOR EVEN THEY HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM UNPREDICTABLE IN WHAT I MAY DO.

Both Lautréamont and Isidore Ducasse "copy"; they were the same person.

YOUR LETTER SOUNDS AS IF YOU ARE RUNNING AROUND QUITE A BIT, BUT DIDN'T MENTION MUCH ABOUT JULIE... ARE YOU OFF ON YOUR OWN?...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only works by artists who don't produce anymore.

**Terry wipes the shaving cream off his face with a washcloth as he listens to the voice on the other end of the phone.**

AND THAT I'M NEVER THE SORT OF THING THAT ONE TAKES LIGHTLY OR FOR KICKS. BECAUSE YOU SEE THAT I CAN KICK BACK.

In the catalogue, Broodthaers queries the need to "write and photograph after having pretended to paint the series of pictures exhibited."

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS NEW SCHOOL THAT YOU SENT THE BROCHURE OF?...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to promote all the artists New York said were a "no-no" in the 70's.

**The muffled conversation in the other room comes to an end as the receiver clicks back in its place.**

AND I'M EMBARRASSED BECAUSE SO MANY OF THE WORLD'S ODD-BALLS HAVE ADOPTED ME AS THEIR SPECIAL GIMMICK. I'M TOO POWERFUL AND I'M TOO IMPORTANT TO JOIN THESE CON ARTISTS AS PART OF ACID CITY.

The catalogue is illustrated with reproductions of photographs of the writers named (not of the paintings), and then reproduces the same reproductions.

CLIFTON PAUL FADIMAN WAS BORN ON MAY 15, 1904, IN BROOKLYN, THE SON OF ISIDORE MICHAEL AND GRACE ELIZABETH FADIMAN, RUSSIAN-JEWISH IMMIGRANTS. HIS FATHER WAS A PHARMACIST, HIS MOTHER A NURSE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with the critics' opinions of the "no-no" artists of the 70's and the "yes-yes" ones of the 80's.

**After several long moments, Terry appears in the doorway of the bathroom and leans against the door jamb. He is very quiet and says nothing.**

AND I'M CONCERNED, I'M REALLY CONCERNED BECAUSE SO MANY PEOPLE WHO GET BUSTED FOR USING ME ARE OR WERE SUCH REALLY PROMISING KIDS.

Broodthaers goes on: "the Plastic Arts in an outdated linguistic framework which serves only as a practice field for manœuvers of a more military than scientific type.

HIS ELDER BROTHER, EDWIN, ENCOURAGED HIM TO READ AND BY THE TIME HE WAS 10, CLIFTON WAS READING HOMER, SOPHOCLES, DANTE AND MILTON.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using all artists who showed in defunct galleries; all dead artists who only showed in defunct galleries and all artists who only had one show before or after we bought their work.

**Jo Harvey looks up at her husband.**
**FACE TO BLACK:**

BUT THERE IS NO KNOWN WAY TO GET YOUR FINGERPRINTS OUT OF THE POLICE FILES ONCE THEY'RE IN THERE.

The subject is denied by its use as the operational means for the conquest of space". The conquest of space here seems to have, as one of its meanings, purely abstract physical arrangement.

HE QUICKLY SHOWED A GREAT INTEREST IN THE INTELLECTUAL HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION AND WOULD WALK TO AND FROM THE LIBRARY, TWO MILES ROUND TRIP, WITH HIS EYES FIXED ON THE PRINTED PAGE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show regional artists who lived in N.Y.C. and international artists who live in N.Y.C.

The **MUSIC BEGINS**, fast and loud. Like all the music which follows it is a mixture of high energy, move-those-feet sixties rock and roll and post-punk speed metal and alternative rock (with a little alt-country).

AND FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO ANSWER "YES" TO THE QUESTION "HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ARRESTED?". AND THAT'S NOT MUCH HELP WHEN IT COMES TO GETTING A JOB, OR GETTING INTO COLLEGE OR LAUNCHING A CAREER.

Note: this was the first work of Broodthaers I saw during its exhibition at the Jack Wendler Gallery in 1972 as mentioned above. A.R.

HE TOOK PRIDE IN BEING ABLE TO SENSE CURBS WITH HIS PERIPHERAL VISION SO THAT HE DID NOT HAVE TO STOP READING JUST TO CROSS THE STREET.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists who drink and those who don't. Male only.

**FADE UP AS THE MAIN TITLE BEGINS. We begin to INTERCUT:**

BUT MOST OF ALL, I'M FRIGHTENED BECAUSE SO MUCH REMAINS TO BE KNOWN ABOUT ME.

"What is painting?
Well, it is literature.

MR. FADIMAN GRADUATED PHI BETA KAPPA FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN 1925. WHILE AT COLUMBIA, HE URGED HIS CLASSMATE WHITTAKER CHAMBERS TO READ "THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO"...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with works which have no date or signature only.

**A1 GETTING DRESSED I. (ALL EXTREME CLOSE-UP). A** worn jean pant leg, freshly washed, pulled over a tanned calf.

LSD: WHY SHOULD MY HALLUCINATIONS RECUR LATER IN AN AFTERFLASH AND IS THERE ANY WAY OF PREVENTING THEM?

What is literature then?
Well, it is painting.

IN THE LATE 1920'S HE WAS A TOP EDITOR AT SIMON & SCHUSTER, REMAINING THERE UNTIL 1933, WHEN HE LEFT TO BECOME BOOK EDITOR OF THE NEW YORKER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection by artists who have been to our house for dinner with wives who are not artists themselves.

**INT. KITCHEN, CLAIRE'S LOFT (NEW YORK CITY)—DAY.**

WILL THEY DEVELOP A GOOD WORKABLE TEST TO TRACE ME INSIDE THE BODY SO THAT CORONERS AND OTHERS CAN TELL WHETHER OR NOT I WAS TAKEN AND IF SO HOW MUCH?

What is the rest?
The rest is demotion.

IN HIS 10 YEARS AT THE NEW YORKER HE FAVORED "CLARITY ABOVE ALL IN WHAT I READ".

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists who now only do public works because they hate galleries.

**Full screen close-up of CLAIRE'S face. Immediately we begin widening to include her environment, a lavishly and recently remolded kitchen, all dark grained cabinets and gleaming tiles.**

DO I DAMAGE THE BRAIN OR DON'T I? AND IF SO HOW MUCH DAMAGE DO I CAUSE AND HOW LASTING IS IT?

Like the moon when she is full,
when she is a slender crescent,
when she is black theoretical night." M.B.

THUS HE GAVE HIGH PRAISE IN HIS REVIEWS TO WRITERS LIKE SINCLAIR LEWIS AND WAS NOT AN ADMIRER OF WRITERS LIKE GERTRUDE STEIN AND WILLIAM FAULKNER...

Honey, I rearrranged the collection using artists who are also critics and who have moved from N.Y.C. to L.A. (and vice versa).

**Claire, very pretty in her tennis whites, sits at the butcher block center island, a telephone next to the coffee cup she is staring into.**

HERE AT THE MCAULEY INSTITUTE THEY HAVE BEEN STUDYING THOSE WHO HAVE TRIPPED MANY TIMES WITH ME. AND INSTRUMENTS LIKE THE ELECTRO-ENCEPHALOGRAPH HAVE INDICATED BRAIN WAVE ABNORMALITIES.

During 1974 Broodthaers spent six months in Berlin on a fellowship. While there, he underwent radical surgery to bypass his liver, which was now quite useless.

HE LOST MOST OF HIS SIGHT AS A RESULT OF ACUTE RETINAL NECROSIS IN HIS LATE 80'S.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with second-generation artists from all periods and styles.

**Behind her, through a window, a large city park green in the N.Y.C. summer, the surrounding trees in full bloom. A maid, wearing her whites passes through the kitchen.**

BUT EVEN WHILE THOSE ABNORMAL TRACINGS TEND TO IMPROVE AFTER MY USE STOPS, CERTAIN OTHER ABNORMALITIES TEND TO PERSIST. PERHAPS PERMANENTLY.

In early 1976, he went to Cologne, saying to his family that he had some business there and would go to the hospital for a check-up, and insisting that they should stay behind in London.

BUT ACCORDING TO HIS DAUGHTER, ANNE, ALSO A WRITER, HE CONTINUED TO VET MANUSCRIPTS FOR THE BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB, AS HE HAD SINCE 1944,

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only artists with hyphenated names.

**AL GETTING DRESSED II**: A new soft, grey cotton Agnès B. shirt gets buttoned up by delicate male fingers.

(WATER DROPS IMAGE)
AND RECENTLY LABORATORY AND CLINICAL TESTS HAVE INDICATED THAT MY POWERFUL CHEMISTRY CAN DAMAGE HUMAN CHROMOSOMES, THE TINY DETERMINERS OF HEREDITY.

He took with him books by Gide, Villon and Rabelais. After a few days, Maria followed.

BY LISTENING TO UNABRIDGED TAPES OF THE VOLUMES IN QUESTION ESPECIALLY RECORDED FOR HIM BY HIS SON KIM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists who aren't going to go anywhere but that we like anyway.

**INT. BEDROOM BILLY'S APARTMENT (NEW YORK CITY)—DAY.**

AND SCIENTISTS HAVE BEGUN TO LINK MY USE TO THE KIND OF CELL CHANGE THAT CAN LEAD TO THE BIRTH OF PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY ABNORMAL CHILDREN.

Many friends visited him in his hospital room and were welcomed genially; most of them departed apparently unaware of the danger of his condition.

HE DICTATED HIS ASSESSMENTS TO A SECRETARY. HE CONTINUED TO PARTICIPATE, BY WAY OF CONFERENCE CALLS, IN THE CLUB'S EDITORIAL BOARD MEETINGS UNTIL MARCH...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only artists who have been in at least 5 international shows in the last 5 years.

**BILLY'S face. Immediately begin widening to take in the room and Patty, Billy's wife. She is filling Billy's new leather overnight bag with his clothes from the closet.**

THESE ANSWERS ARE NOT ALL IN YET, AND RESEARCH CONTINUES. MEANWHILE, AS ONE AUTHORITY HAS SUGGESTED, MY CONTINUAL USERS MIGHT DONATE THEIR BRAINS AFTER DEATH TO HELP SCIENTISTS CLARIFY MATTERS.

After a few days in the hospital, Marcel died on his birthday 28 January 1976, and was buried in Brussels.

CLIFTON FADIMAN HAD A FONDNESS FOR PEOPLE'S LAST WORDS AND WROTE AN ESSAY ABOUT THEM CALLED "SOME PASSING REMARKS ON SOME PASSING REMARKS".

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only artists who have been in rehab.

**Billy's eyes dart frantically about his messy desk as he searches for something and keeps up a steady, hyped-up monologue we cannot hear.**

(MAN IN MIRROR)
PORTRAIT OF A TRAVELER ABOUT TO TAKE A TRIP. AND HIS TRIP IS JUST NOW STARTING. HE'S STUCK WITH ME NOW AND WHAT WE MAY DO TOGETHER FOR THE NEXT FEW HOURS.

Biographical text from "In Praise of the Subject", Michael Compton, Walker Art Center, 1989.

HE ONCE TOLD HIS DAUGHTER THAT HIS FAVORITE PARTING LINE WAS THAT OF THE 18TH CENTURY ENGLISH WRITER MARY WORTLEY MONTAGU: "IT HAS ALL BEEN VERY INTERESTING".

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show the artists who know movie stars & rock stars that collect their work too.

**Patty folds a dark tie into the bag and comes up next to Billy. Very calmly, she extracts a new set of batteries from the debris of the desk and places them in Billy's hand.**

I'M NOT VICIOUS BY NATURE, BUT I'M NOT HARMLESS EITHER. REMEMBER, I SAID I WAS LIKE A DEPTH CHARGE IN THE MIND.

The Taverne du Passage at 30 Galerie de la Reine in Brussels was a favorite restaurant of Marcel. On the afternoon of February 4, 1976, a memorial was held there in his honor.

MARCH 16, 1964
SUNDAY EVENING
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearrranged the collection showing artists who don't know Leo Castelli personally.

**This stops him cold and calms him down, as she always does. He looks at her sadly.**

WELL, THE DIRECTION AND FORCE OF MY EXPLOSION AMONG HIS 12 BILLION BRAIN CELLS IS ABSOLUTLY AND TOTALLY UNPREDICTABLE. WHEN YOU TINKER WITH YOUR BRAIN BY ALTERING ITS NATURAL PROCESSES WITH AN UNKNOWN DOSE OF AN UNKNOWN DRUG YOU HAVE TO TAKE YOUR CHANCES.

The "Déjeuner Marcel Broodthaers" was initially for an invited twenty-five people but in the end ninety-one showed up to dine and celebrate the art and life of Marcel Broodthaers.

ANOTHER WEEK GONE BY, I DON'T KNOW IF THEY SEEM TO GO BY AS FAST FOR YOU AS THEY DO HERE BUT THEY SURE DO ROLL AROUND PRETTY QUICK...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only works we bought at benefit auctions.

**AL GETTING DRESSED III: The shiny buckle of a dress belt is fastened over the waist button on the button-fly Levis.**

BUT CURIOUSLY ENOUGH, THE KIND OF TRIP HE'LL TAKE WON'T DEPEND ON MY CHEMISTRY AS MUCH AS HIS. BECAUSE YOU SEE, IT'S MY REAL SECRET THAT I STRIP AWAY THE LAYERS AND LAYERS OF EGO.

The reservations were in the name of Monsieur et Madame Herman Daled for 3 P.M. The kitchen was open and everyone was free to choose from the familiar menu. The total bill was 49,595 Belgian francs.

I SUPPOSE NOT HAVING MY LETTER TO LOOK AT, YOU FORGOT TO COMMENT ON THE POSSIBILITY OF OUR BUILDING ON MILLER RD. WHAT DID YOU THINK OF IT?

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show artists who were popular in the 80's but aren't now and won't be later.

**INT. MARGARET'S HILLTOP STUDIO (LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA)—DAY.**

THE PROTECTIVE SECURITY BLANKET THAT SHELTERS YOU ALL. AND I CAN BRING HIM INTO THE INCREDIBLE WORLD OF HIS OWN DEEP BRAIN DREAMSCAPE.

These are some of the choices one could have made:

WE WENT TO LOOK AT SOME OTHER HOUSES TODAY BUT THOUGHT THEY WERE QUITE CHEESY-LOOKING... NOT NEARLY AS GOOD AS THE OTHERS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists we have met more than once but have not had over to dinner.

**MARGARET'S** face. Her eyes, too, flick over the papers which will soon come into view on her large immaculate drawing board. But these eyes are different from Billy's.

LSD: OF COURSE WHEN HE ACTUALLY GETS THERE, HE MAY BE TERRIFIED BY WHAT HE SEES. BUT THAT'S HIS PROBLEM NOT MINE. (FADE WITH MUSIC...CREDITS CRAWL).

Pour Commencer
Les huîtres Colchester Les 6..., Les 9..., Les 12...
La Bisque de Homard à l'Armagnac.
Le Cocktail de Crevettes Fraiches.

THEY WERE QUITE SMALL, THE MODELS THAT WERE OPEN—ALTHO' THERE WERE A FEW LARGER ONES SHOWN IN THEIR BOOK. WHEN WE ASKED THE MAN ABOUT THE PRICE HE WANTED TO KNOW WHERE WE WERE PLANNING TO BUILD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only the works which were given or traded to us and works which we paid the most for

**For one thing their movements are steady, concise, controlled. Secondly, they are very red from a long last night.**

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Les Coquilles Saint-Jacques Fraiches.
La Blanquette de Coquilles Saint-Jacques aux Légumes.
La Cassolette de Coquilles Saint-Jacques aux Epinards.

WHEN WE SAID "BRECKSVILLE" HE SAID: "OH, THESE WOULDN'T BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR THERE. YOU'D WANT SOMETHING BETTER". AFTER WE'D LOOKED AROUND WE QUITE AGREED! THEY REALLY LOOKED CHEAP;

Honey, I rearranged the collection with all the works which we usually keep in the drawers.

**Margaret sets some papers neatly into the open portfolio on her credenza, looks at them a beat, then lights up a cigarette**

THE GIFT AND THE INHERITANCE 1990
HOW TO COLLECT BOOKS AND ART

Les Spécialités Belges
Les Croquettes aux Crevettes.
Les Anguilles au Vert Maison (chaudes ou froides).
La Poularde de Bruxelles à la Crème.
La Sole Ostendaise.

I DON'T THINK I'D EVEN TRADE OURS FOR ONE OF THEM. THE OTHERS WE SAW I'D BE WILLING TO MOVE RIGHT IN.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to look like the pattern on our old quilt.

**and stands gazing over the briefcase at the Los Angeles skyline. The studio is large and carefully done; her view is a good one.**

"EVERY PASSION BORDERS ON THE CHAOTIC, BUT THE COLLECTOR'S PASSION BORDERS ON THE CHAOS OF MEMORIES" WALTER BENJAMIN, "UNPACKING MY LIBRARY", 1931

Les Moules Marinières, pommes frites.
Les Moules au Vin blanc, pommes frites.

I'M A LITTLE SLOW IN SENDING PICTURES OF OUR STORM AREAS. MAYBE THESE ARE SOME THAT YOU SAW OUT THERE. WE WERE FORTUNATE THIS TIME, THAT THE WATER RUSHING DOWN THE ROAD WENT ON THE OTHER SIDE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I was fed up with our boring life.

**AL GETTING DRESSED IV: An orange high top Reebok running shoe is tightly knotted on a black stocking foot. A man's finger rubs at a black scuff.**

DATELINE NEW YORK CITY, WINTER 1990:

Nos Spécialités
La Choucroute garnie: à l'Alsacienne, au Jambonneau de Paris, au Carré de porc fumé.
L'Andouillette de Troyes grillée, pommes frites.
Le Vol-au-vent de Volaille Mousseline.
Le filet pur Père Quentin.

THE PEOPLE IN KLEP'S HOUSE, NEXT DOOR AND HOWARD'S, ALL HAD THEIR DRIVEWAYS GOUGED OUT SO THAT THEY HAD TO PUT BOARDS OVER IT IN ORDER TO GET IN OR OUT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to remember why we wanted to have one in the first place.

**INT. FIRST CLASS SECTION, 747—JOE'S SEAT—DAY.**

WHAT ABOUT THIS IDEA OF ART AS A GIFT?
HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THAT IDEA ALTOGETHER?

Hors-d'Œuvre
L'oeuf à la Russe. Le Hareng Baltique. Les Tomates aux Crevettes Fraiches.
La Bouchée à la Reine Mousseline. La Mousse de Jambon d'Ardennes.

ALONG SIDE OF THE PAVEMENT, ALL DOWN THE ROAD, IT WENT STRAIGHT DOWN ABOUT A FOOT AND A HALF. IF YOU EVER SLIPPED OFF THE PAVEMENT YOU'D BREAK A WHEEL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that it only shows representations of women at home or in the landscape.

**JOE'S face. He looks up, his handsome features in a mild alcoholic daze. The Stewardess, a stack of magazines in hand, is flirting with him aggressively.**

WHAT ABOUT COLLECTORS, COLLECTING AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF OWNERSHIP?
WHAT ABOUT THE INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OWNERS AND OBJECTS?

Potages
Le Potage aux Légumes Frais. La Crème de Volaille.

THIS WEEK, WE HAD AN ICE STORM... I THINK ON MONDAY NIGHT. WE COULD HEAR IT COMING DOWN BUT DIDN'T REALIZE JUST WHAT IT WAS DOING UNTIL NEXT MORNING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and put all artists who belong in the bedroom into the living room and all artists from the bathroom are now in the bedroom. Kitchen artists are removed.

**He smiles over a row of empty little vodka bottles. She teases a moment more, then reveals the cover of the top magazine with a flourish:**

WHAT ELSE TO DO BESIDES MOVE ARTWORKS FROM ONE ROOM TO ANOTHER?
CAN THERE BE SOME PLACE FOR AN UNANTICIPATED EXCHANGE IN THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ARTIST AND COLLECTOR?

Eufs
L'Omelette au Fromage. L'Omelette aux Crevettes Fraiches.

DAD HAD TO CHOP THE DOOR OPEN TO LET BEETEL OUT AND THE ICE WAS HANGING OVER EVERYTHING... LONG ICICLES FROM THE RAILING AND EVERY POINT ON THE CANOPY OVER THE DOOR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection removing all artists with fuck-off beards. Also no bald artists. Our collection looks clean now.

it is **US** magazine and on the cover is a smiling shot of **JOE**.

I HAVE A THOUGHT.

Poissons et Crustacés
La Sole Meunière. La Sole Ostendaise.
Le Cabillaud Royal Dijonnaise. Le Saumon frais à la Ciboulette.

EVERY TREE, BUSH, BUILDING AND EVERYTHING WAS JUST THICK WITH ICE, NOT JUST A GLAZE BUT REALLY THICK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only works I bought to impress you.

**The man himself seems slightly jolted by his mirror image at this unsuspecting moment.**

A REOCCURING INTEREST OF MINE HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN THE BLURRING OF ROLES BETWEEN ARTIST AND VIEWER AND THE REPOSITIONING OF THE AUDIENCE IN ORDER TO BRING IT MORE IN LINE WITH THE ACTION OF THE ARTIST.

Viandes Grillées
Le Rumsteak. L'Entrecôte. Le Chateaubriand (2 couverts).
La Côte de Veau. L'Escalope de Veau Viennoise.

IT WAS SO THICK THAT THE SUN SHONE ON IT FOR TWO DAYS BEFORE IT WAS ALL OFF. REALLY IT WAS BEAUTIFUL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and see what we were after when we bought these damn things in the first place.

**But he recovers quickly and charmingly indicates to the Stewardess what he wants right now — not her, not the magazine, but another little vodka bottle to empty.**

HISTORICALLY, ONE OF THE SIMPLEST AND MOST DIRECT WAYS HAS BEEN TO CONNECT THE LIVES OF THE TWO IN SOME FORM OF A REAL LIFE ACTION OR EXCHANGE, THEREBY BYPASSING THE BUYING AND SELLING OF OBJECTS ALTOGETHER.

Garnitures, Légumes, le Buffet Froid, Volailles, Patisserie, Entremets, Glaces, Fruits,

I THOUGHT OF TAKING SOME PICTURES BUT SUPPOSED THERE WASN'T ANY FILM IN THE CAMERA AND DIDN'T EVEN LOOK. WHEN THE GREATER PART OF IT HAD GONE I FOUND THERE WAS A NEW ROLL IN IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it looked like a mess we had no control over.

**AL GETTING DRESSED V: A woman's sleek fingers have made a neat knot in a conservative tie. Now they slide the knot lovingly, almost sensually, up to the collar.**

SINCE IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ALL ART IN SOME WAYS IS ABOUT THE PASSING OF TIME, I PROPOSE IN THIS WORK A KIND OF "TILL DEATH DO US PART" RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COLLECTOR.

Apéritifs, Jus de Fruits-Limonades-Eaux, Bières, Boissons Chaudes, Alcools et Digestifs, Pichets et Vins au Verre.

HOWEVER MR. ANDERSON TOOK SOME AND WHEN HE GETS THEM BACK I'LL SEE IF WE WANT SOME. THE SECOND DAY, WHEN YOU WENT OUTSIDE, ALL YOU COULD HEAR WAS ICE DROPPING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I lost my job today and now we will never be able to buy any more things.

**INT. HOTEL ROOM, EL CAMINO REAL, (EL PASO, TEXAS)—DAY.**

A CONNECTION THAT REVEALS ITSELF IN A SLOW UNRAVELLING OF THE TIME SHARED BETWEEN US.

"I have often made art in the way that one does one's mantlepiece." M.B.

IT SOUNDED LIKE HAIL. GREAT BIG HUNKS, SOMETIMES A COATING OF A WHOLE BRANCH WOULD FALL. I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show what would happen if we split up. Yours, mine and the IRS.

**CHLOE'S face, seems very young. All the others have been in their forties or fifties, but Chloe is barely past thirty and there's no question about the difference it makes.**

OVER THE YEARS I HAVE ASSEMBLED A LIBRARY FOR MY USE AS AN ARTIST, BUT ALSO BEING A COLLECTOR OF RARE BOOKS AND OTHER ASSORTED EPHEMERA, I AM AWARE OF THE NEED TO PERIODICALLY REARRANGE AND RENEW A COLLECTION.

Moules Œufs Frites Pots Charbon
Moules Œufs Frites Pots Charbon Perroquets

I WENT OVER TO PLEASANT VALLEY ON THURSDAY AND GOING DOWN AVERY ROAD WHERE THE TREES HANG OVER THE ROAD, THE ICE DROPPED ON THE CAR CLUNKETY-CLUNK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to "liberate" it from our curator's intent. Too much theory. I hate it.

**This face, this young smooth, striking face, is straining now, heavily beaded with sweat. Chloe is on the thick carpet of this luxurious room doing tortuous dancer streches.**

THE REASONS FOR THIS ARE ENDLESS AND UNIQUE TO EVERY COLLECTOR. HOWEVER, THIS CURRENT REARRANGEMENT OF MY COLLECTION IS ACTUALLY AN EXTENSION OUT INTO THE REAL WORLD AND ALSO A PROVISION FOR ITS FUTURE CARE.

"Of course I now have a job, and I'd have a hard time getting out of it. In my naivety, I actually believed that I could put off choosing a profession until my demise. How have I been trapped?... Yes, now, like all artists, I'm integral part of society." M.B., 1965

THE FIRST DAY WHEN THE SUN SHONE SO BRIGHTLY IT WAS JUST LIKE FAIRYLAND. THE FENCE BY THE CHICKEN YARD LOOKED SO FUNNY WHEN IT STARTED TO MELT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the colors of the books in the room. One work per book.

**Her long, wonderful, generous body is bent to an impossible angle. She is working hard.**

IT IS AS FOLLOWS:
I HAVE NOW BEGUN TO MAKE DRAWINGS OF SINGLE BOOKS SELECTED FROM DIFFERENT AREAS OF MY COLLECTION.

One Marcel

EVERY STRAND OF WIRE OF COURSE HAD THIS THICK COATING SO ALL THE SQUARES WERE OUTLINED WITH IT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to how a work "smells", given its image. The smells are then arranged according to taste. That's where I stopped.

**The room is generic to say the least, done entirely in hotel contemporary. Chloe's bright leotard jumps extravagantly from overall muted color schemes.**

THE PERSONAL, INTIMATE QUALITIES THAT HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH DRAWING SEEM TO BE THE QUIETER AND MORE CONTEMPLATIVE FORM NEEDED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PROJECT.

Marcel Duchamp is dead at 81; enigmatic giant of modern art

AS IT MELTED OFF OF SOME OF THEM, FROM A DISTANCE, IT LOOKED AS IF PART OF THE FENCE WAS MISSING. I REALLY WISH I HAD TAKEN A PICTURE OF THAT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to conversations we had with the artist of each work. If we had no conversation the work stays in storage.

**Terry and Jo Harvey have paid for the room.**

THE DRAWINGS ARE, NONE THE LESS, VERY INTENSE RENDERINGS AND ARE INTENDED TO BE MORE OF A FORM OF ULTIMATE POSSESSION FOR ME THAN THAT OF WHAT A SIMPLE READING OF THE BOOK WOULD OFFER.

Paris, Oct. 2. 1968. Marcel Duchamp, one of the most influential artists of the century, died last night in his studio in the Paris suburb of Neuilly.

WELL, MARTHA HAS COME UP TO BED SO GUESS I'LL HAVE TO CLOSE.
BYE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and make a correlation between the physical size of the artist and the piece we have. Short artist/small work etc.

**AL GETTING DRESSED VI: A brush pulls his greying hair neatly back over the top of his head. One more touch makes it perfect.**

EVERY BOOK HAS BECOME SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN LIFE IN THE PROCESS. THE DRAWING IS THEN FRAMED AND PLACED ON A SIZE-SPECIFIC SHELF RATHER THAN HUNG ON THE WALL. A BOOK ON A SHELF.

He collapsed just after having dinner with his wife and some friends.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1999
NICCOLO TUCCI, 91, AUTHOR WHO WROTE OF CHILDHOOD, DIES
BY DINITIA SMITH

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show who knows who. Artists who know each other; artists who know our curator; artists who know artists from other generations and countries; artists who know only museum directors, etc.

**INT./EXT. BOYD'S MERCEDES (ON THE ROAD)—DAY.**

NOW WE HAVE MORE OF A TRADITIONAL WORK OF ART AND THEREFORE, SOME FORM OF A STANDARD COMMODITY.

Duchamp, who was 81 years old, was a naturalized American citizen. He maintained homes here and in New York. Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

NICCOLO TUCCI, AN AUTHOR BEST KNOWN FOR HIS AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FICTION EVOKING A EUROPEAN CHILDHOOD

Honey, I rearranged the collection generationally. Oldest artists in the main room down to baby artists in the kid's room.

**No face this time. Rather we have BOYD'S hands on the steering wheel of his aging black sedan.**

BUT IN THIS CASE THERE IS A CLAUSE, A DUAL PROPOSITION. AFTER A SALE HAS BEEN COMPLETED, THE COLLECTOR IS THEN WRITTEN INTO MY WILL AND RECEIVES UPON MY DEATH, THE ACTUAL BOOK THAT HE HAS CHOSEN FIRST AS A DRAWING.

## The Grand Dada

By Alexander Keneas

Like the smile of the Mona Lisa, which he retouched with moustache and goatee, Marcel Duchamp remained an enigma.

AND A WONDERFUL AND MONSTROUS RUSSIAN GRANDMOTHER, DIED YESTERDAY AT HIS HOME IN MANHATTAN. HE WAS 91.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only works of multiple colors. Then I did it again using all the colors that were missing from the first hanging. The second is the best. Less harsh.

**Beyond the hands, we can see the scenery streaking by at a rate inconsistent with a lawful speed.**

WHILE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE PASSING DOWN OF THIS FINE LITERARY OBJECT FROM ONE COLLECTOR TO ANOTHER, THE COLLECTOR ALSO HAS A DRAWING OF HIS BOOK TO GIVE HIM PLEASURE IN THE MEANTIME.

Thrust into the international limelight by the 1913 Armory show, he abandoned his career only a decade later, at the age of 36.

MR. TUCCI, THE AUTHOR OF FOUR BOOKS IN ENGLISH AND THREE IN ITALIAN, WAS A COLORFUL, ROMANTIC FIGURE WITH SOMEWHAT LONG HAIR, A SILK FOULARD AND HANDMADE SUITS FROM HUNTSMAN & SONS OF LONDON.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to a color code I saw in my dream. The main color of each work symbolizes how I feel about the artist.

That impression is reinforced by the **MUSIC**, which now seems to have been emanating all along from the tape deck of his car, blasting it forward through the countryside.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, HE IS REMINDED THAT HE IS NOW INTRICATELY INVOLVED IN THE LIFE OF THE ARTIST AND THAT HE ALSO HAS AN INTRODUCTION TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THEIR KNOWING EACH OTHER IN UNANTICIPATED WAYS AND MOMENTS TO COME.

Yet in half a century the enfant terrible who had thumbed his nose at the pantheon of art grew up to become the spiritual father of the pop generation,

"HE DOES RESEMBLE AN ACTOR", HIS FRIEND MARY MCCARTHY WROTE IN AN INTRODUCTION TO MR. TUCCI'S BOOK "THE RAIN CAME LAST AND OTHER STORIES".

Honey, I rearranged the collection so it is a collection of restaurants that artists have taken us to. Only the best restaurants and only the best artists.

**Now his right hand disappears for a second and when it reappears we follow it to the ashtray, where it stubs out a massive joint and leaves the roach, then travels to the glove compartment.**

ULTIMATELY, A GIFT OF TIME FROM THE ARTIST.

and Marcel Duchamp the artist had blossomed into Marcel Duchamp the idea.

"BUT HE IS ALSO AN OPERA SINGER, A CONDUCTOR, A PAINTER OF THE OLD SCHOOL. IN ANY CASE, A MAESTRO, A VIRTUOSO". FOR MANY YEARS HE WAS ALSO A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE NEW YORKER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we can get anything we want–almost–I can get any piece by any comtemporary artist I choose. There is always something new, somebody new, a never-ending supply of art.

**From the mess of the box it extracts a large bottle of pills and flips the cap off with a thumb. The hand shakes a dozen pills with various colors on the passenger seat.**

RAYMOND ROUSSEL FALLS TO THE FLOOR (DISCOVERING ART).
A BIOGRAPHY (WITH ADDITIONAL NOTES). 1979

The idea, however, posed more questions about the nature of art than it answered, for at its roots it was the idea of rejection.

IN HIS WRITING, MR. TUCCI TRIED TO RECAPTURE THE LOST WORLD OF CHILDHOOD, AND A LOST PATRIMONY. HE WAS BORN IN LUGANO, SWITZERLAND, IN 1908.

Honey, I rearranged the collection just to show off. To surround myself with all these fantastic things and to show all the stuff we have collected in five short years. And to make it feel like "a nest I can lay eggs in!".

**The fingers forage through pills, picking out only white ones. The hand disappears from view.**

RAYMOND ROUSSEL WAS BORN JANUARY 20, 1877, IN PARIS.

"I'm afraid I'm an agnostic in art", Duchamp once said.

HIS FATHER, LEONARDO, WAS A DOCTOR. HIS MOTHER, MARY, CAME FROM A RUSSIAN BANKING FAMILY THAT HAD LOST ITS FORTUNE DURING THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to combine pieces from your father's collection and ours. Now its really museum quality.

**We're outside and behind the Mercedes now, trying to keep up. But suddenly the car jumps into hyperspace, and is gone.**

HE DIED IN 1933 AT THE AGE OF FIFTY-SIX.

"I just don't believe in it with all the mystical trimmings. As a drug, it's probably very useful for a number of people, very sedative, but as religion it's not even as good as God."

HIS PARENTS, MR. TUCCI ONCE WROTE, WERE "FIT TO HAVE CHILDREN, NOT TO TEND THEM".

Honey, I rearranged the collection to parade our influence as collectors.

**Taking the MUSIC with it.**

HIS FATHER WAS A WEALTHY STOCKBROKER.

Duchamp was the quintessence of the Dada spirit. Unlike other figures in the movement who would go on after World War I to become serious painters,

WHEN HE WAS A CHILD, THE FAMILY MOVED TO A HOME OUTSIDE FLORENCE WHERE MR. TUCCI RECEIVED HIS EARLY EDUCATION. HE WAS, HE SAID, "PRECOCIOUSLY ILLITERATE".

Honey, I rearranged the collection as a deliberate homage to ourselves.

**AL GETTING DRESSED VII: It's very quiet now. Only the rustling of a black linen, Perry Ellis jacket, as the sleek feminine fingers pull a shirt cuff down out of the shadow of the jacket's sleeve.**

HIS MOTHER CAME FROM A PROMINENT FAMILY.

to assimilate subsequent artistic developments, he carried the baudeville of esthetic nihilism to its logical conclusion.

INITIALLY, HE WANTED TO BE A PSYCHIATRIST, BUT HIS FATHER WANTED HIM TO STUDY LAW. HE MANAGED TO LEARN SIX LANGUAGES AND SPENT A YEAR IN 1931 AT AMHERST COLLEGE AS AN EXCHANGE STUDENT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show the unconscious copying of our fellow collectors.

Then very deliberately, first on one hand, then the other, the fingers pull the cuffs down to cover that which is hard to hide—the straight, awful slits across the tender insides of the wrists.

THEY LIVED AT 25 BOULEVARD MALESHERBES.

His exit was final, and the perfect complement to his output as an artist.

HE ENROLLED IN A DOCTORAL PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY, BUT HE WAS, HE SAID, CONVERTED TO FASCISM BY THE WRITINGS OF GIOVANNI GENTILE AND HE RETURNED TO ITALY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to showcase the fortunate coincidences which brought all these pieces into our hands.

**THE MAIN TITLE ENDS.**
**A NEW TITLE APPEARS: FRIDAY.**

THEY WERE NEIGHBORS OF THE PROUSTS WHO LIVED AT 9 BOULEVARD MALESHERBES.

Thus his life, as well as his much shorter career, was looked upon as esthetically significant (or insignificant, for some critics regarded the withdrawal of the Grand Dada as an escape from his own inadequacies as an artist).

EVENTUALLY HE RECEIVED A PH. D. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE, WRITING A THESIS IN DEFENSE OF MUSSOLINI'S DOCTRINE,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to persuade museum curators that our collection is not a "wilful pastiche!".

**EXT: HOTEL EL CAMINO REAL (EL PASO, TEXAS)—DAY.**

HIS SISTER MARRIED INTO NOBILITY, BECOMING DUCHESSE D' ELCHINGEN.

But for the most part Duchamp maintained an aristocratic detachment and reserve from such speculations, politely nodding in acquiescence to the legend that he gave up art to play chess;

AND THEN WORKED FOR MUSSOLINI'S PROPAGANDA MINISTRY, BECOMING HEAD OF A GERMAN-LANGUAGE RADIO STATION.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are not amateurs, and do not follow trends.

**People are arriving for Terry and Jo Harvey Allen's 35th Wedding Anniversary party. It's not a hugh crowd yet,**

HE HAD ABSOLUTE FAITH IN HIS DESTINY AND REMAINED CONVINCED OF THE "IMMEASURABLE ARTISTIC VALUE" OF HIS WORK.

or, with a thin smile crossing his sharply featured, ascetically gaunt face, describing his occupation of later years as that of "respirateur".

HE TRANSLATED MUSSOLINI'S SPEECHES INTO GERMAN, AND WAS REBUKED IN 1936 BECAUSE HE HAD ALTERED ONE OF THE TEXTS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection alternating alphabetically between the first letter of the title of the piece and the artist's last name.

**but the small parking area of the circular drive at the entrance of the hotel is busy. Parking attendants are quickly unloading the guests.**

HE PUBLISHED, AT HIS OWN EXPENSE, HIS FIRST BOOK, A "NOVEL" IN VERSE ENTITLED "LA DOUBLURE" WHEN HE WAS TWENTY.

He was, in the words of Lawrence Alloway, former curator of the Guggenheim Museum, "the Duke of Windsor of Modern Art".

IN 1937 MR. TUCCI TRAVELED TO NEW YORK AS "A FASCIST PROPAGANDIST", AS HE PUT IT, AND LECTURED ON DANTE FOR THE ITALY-AMERICAN SOCIETY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection alphabetically with all the "untitleds" in one room, the one-word-titles in the next, and all the rest in the basement.

**Everyone is very happy and excited.**

HE ADMIRED JULES VERNE.

And even in his abdication he commanded the esteem of the avant-garde.

HE BECAME DISILLUSIONED WITH FASCISM AND MOVED TO NEW YORK PERMANENTLY IN 1938 WITH HIS WIFE, LAURA RUSCONI, AND THEIR INFANT SON VIERI.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only the "fur-lined teacup" piece of each artist, this makes our collection very small!

**INT. HOTEL EL CAMINO REAL BAR—DAY.**

HE WOULD NOT WEAR ANYTHING WHICH HAD BEEN WASHED ONCE.

"Posterity has to decide"

THE FAMILY SETTLED ON CABRINI BOULEVARD IN WASHINGTON HEIGHTS, AND MR. TUCCI DEVOTED HIMSELF TO ANTI-FASCIST PROPAGANDA, TRANSLATING AND GHOST-WRITING...

Honey, I rearranged the collection strictly chronologically according to date of piece. Beginning with the earliest one, I took one work from that year, two works from the next, three from the next, etc.; up until 1968, then there is too many.

**At the rear end of the lobby, adjacent to the reception desk and the elevators is the large circular bar which will serve as headquarters**

HE PREFERRED THE "DOMAIN OF CONCEPTION TO THAT OF REALITY".

"It is disastrous for an artist to declare, to defend his art", he said to a reporter late last year. "Posterity has to decide, and even if it is wrong all over the place it has the advantage of coming into being.

IN 1962 MR. TUCCI PUBLISHED HIS FIRST NOVEL IN ENGLISH, "BEFORE MY TIME". "I WAS BORN BEFORE MY TIME", HE WROTE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection putting up only pieces I think about when I'm not at home. The rest goes to storage.

**for the more than 100 people who will attend over the course of the weekend.**

HE WORKED AN AVERAGE OF THREE HOURS EVERY MORNING WITH THE CURTAINS DRAWN SO AS NOT TO LET THE RAYS OF LIGHT FROM HIS PEN ESCAPE.

I wish I could live another hundred years." "But", he added with a pensive smile and a moments pause,

"WHEN MY TIME CAME, THE PLACE WAS OCCUPIED BY SOMEONE ELSE; ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE FOR WHICH I WAS NOW FIT HAD SUDDENLY BECOME UNFIT. IT WAS ALWAYS TOO EARLY OR TOO LATE".

Honey, I rearranged the collection to reflect how I feel about you. We did buy everything together.

**Terry is standing by one of the leather stools that surround the bar, under the oldest and largest Tiffany dome west of the Mississippi, holding a drink.**

HE WAS A CRACK PISTOL SHOT.

"perhaps it would be better to be dead. You see I find it perfectly acceptable to contradict myself."

AT THE CENTER OF THE BOOK IS MR. TUCCI'S RUSSIAN GRANDMOTHER, KNOWN AS GROSSMAMACHEN, THE TYRANNICAL MATRIARCH OF A RUSSIAN FAMILY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using 1965 as the dividing line. All works before in both main rooms, all the works after back in storage.

**TERRY'S** face as he looks around to greet and direct the guests. He seems to be doing this as much from nervous energy as from actual need. And he is smoking.

HE HAD A PANE OF GLASS SET INTO HIS MOTHER'S COFFIN SO HE WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE HER FACE UP TO THE VERY LAST MOMENT.

Contradiction formed an important part of the ideological and artistic universe that Duchamp had created for himself. Finding scientific laws to be arbitrary, he formulated his own. "Why he asked,

PORTRAYED BY MR. TUCCI AS BOTH A LIFE-GIVER AND DESTROYER, SHE TRAVELS WITH AN EXTENSIVE ENTOURAGE OF SERVANTS, INCLUDING A FRENCH MASTER-CHEF, A GERMAN BUTLER, AN ADMINISTRATOR AND HER FAMILY PORTRAITS AND ICONS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection dividing it between European artists after 1968 and Americans before.

**Terry sees JOE get out of a cab, pay the driver and enter the lobby. He comes over to meet him and they embrace.**

HE PUBLISHED HIS FIRST NOVEL, "IMPRESSIONS D'AFRIQUE" IN 1910.

must we worship principles which in 50 or 100 years will no longer apply?" He responded by devising a personal logic in which cause and effect became subject to chance,

HELEN CANTARELLA WRITING IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, SAID "AFTER A BRILLIANT FIRST CHAPTER WHICH PINPOINTS WITH DEFT IF UNCHARITABLE WIT ITS CAST OF CHARACTERS, THE BOOK UNFOLDS WITH ALMOST PROUSTIAN INVOLUTION".

Honey, I rearranged the collection with all artists born in the 40's in one room and all artists born in the 70's in the other. The rest is stacked in the bedroom.

**It is the first of many reunions that day and it carries a significance for the other characters.**

HE PRODUCED "IMPRESSIONS D'AFRIQUE" AT THE THÉÂTRE ANTOINE IN PARIS IN MAY OF 1912.

and reality shifted through visual and verbal puns. In his universe an apple might not choose to "condescend" to the laws of gravity; the act of love might, in mock deference to 20th-century science, exist as a fourth dimension ritual of machines.

SHE CALLED THE NOVEL A "GENUINE SPELLBINDER".

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it was just some of this and some of that. The question now is: can one piece be a collection?

**They are glad to see each other and joke about the reasons that bring them here.**

HE PUBLISHED HIS SECOND NOVEL, "LOCUS SOLUS" IN 1914.

It was all very seriously tongue in cheek, yet it was also especially appealing to more than a generation of intellectuals who felt that science had stripped them of traditional values and left them spiritually bankrupt.

NEXT CAME MR. TUCCI'S "UNFINISHED FUNERAL", THE STORY OF A MATRIARCH NAMED ERMELINDA, DUCHESS OF COMBON DE TRITON, COUNTESS OF VILLA DEATI, WHO ENSNARES HER FAMILY IN A WEB OF EMOTIONAL GUILT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to what your father would approve of. He is a true connoisseur. Do we have an "A" piece yet?

**JOE**: Terry!
**TERRY**: Joe!
They hold each other at arms length.

He produced "Locus Solus" at the Théâtre Antoine in Paris in December 1922.

If Duchamp did not provide the cure for spiritual malaise he at least offered wit absurdity and the humor of paradox as anodyne.

In 1971 "The Sun and the Moon", a semi-autobiographical work about his parents' courtship and marriage, was published.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only work we bought in instalments.

**JOE: Christ!**
**Terry just nods and picks up Joe's bag to carry it across the lobby to the registration desk.**

HE COULD RECITE THE ENTIRE 459 PAGES OF "LOCUS SOLUS" WORD FOR WORD.

Yet Duchamp's works also pointed to more positive concepts of art that would be articulated by generations to come: the illusion of painting giving way to the reality of the three dimensional object, the self-effacement of the artist, the object competing and merging with its environment.

IN THAT BOOK, MR. TUCCI'S FATHER IS NEARLY DRIVEN MAD BY HIS MOTHER-IN-LAW'S WAYS. ALL THREE BOOKS WERE EDITED BY MR. TUCCI'S SON-IN-LAW, ROBERT GOTTLIEB, WHO WAS AN EDITOR AT SIMON & SCHUSTER.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with all the works that are now too expensive to get any more. Aren't we lucky? Or what?

**NOTES**: The secret in horror is **WHO DID IT?**

HE WROTE AN ORIGINAL PLAY, "L'ÉTOILE AU FRONT", WHICH OPENED IN MAY 1924.

**Cubists or Octagonists** "There is no reason why people should not call themselves Cubists, or Octagonists, Parallelopipedonists, or Knights of the Isosceles Triangle, or Brothers of the Cosine, if they so desire; as expressing anything serious or permanent, one term is as fatuous as another."

"HE INSISTED I MARRY HIS EDITOR", THE WRITER'S DAUGHTER, THE ACTRESS MARIA TUCCI, SAID YESTERDAY. THE BOOKS HAVE BEEN REISSUED BY MOYER BELL LTD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to our favorite restaurants. Each piece representing a great meal we had after we found a great piece.

They Always Come Back (to revisit the past) To try again. The secrets are revealed by telling the truth.

HE PRODUCED HIS LAST PLAY, "LA POUSSIÈRE DE SOLEILS" IN 1926.

With these words Theodore Roosevelt joined the rank of Americans who in a few short weeks were turned into art critics by the 1913 Armory Show.

MR. TUCCI ALSO RECOUNTED HIS CHILDHOOD YEARS AND THOSE OF HIS OWN CHILDREN IN HIS SHORT STORIES FOR THE NEW YORKER,

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the geographical areas and the seasons where we found our best pieces, i.e. winter pieces in the Catskills, and summer pieces in the Hamptons.

**The "Al"character is, in form and content, the least knowable and defined. The Unknowable as the content of the story and as defined by the other characters.**

HE PUBLISHED "NOUVELLES IMPRESSIONS D'AFRIQUE" IN 1928 WITH ILLUSTRATIONS COMMISSIONED THROUGH A DETECTIVE AGENCY.

At the center of public ridicule, heaped primarily on the Cubist section of the exhibition, Duchamp's "Nude-Descending a Staircase" stood as the symbol of the insanity to which modern art had progressed.

WHICH IS HOW MR. GOTTLIEB CAME TO KNOW HIS FUTURE WIFE, CALLED BIMBA IN THE STORIES.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the names of the dealers we got them from instead of the artists.

**The Unknowable as a character in itself. Main theme—To change the past; rewrite the script.**

HE WAS GREETED WITH HOSTILITY FOR ALL HIS WORKS.

The association of American Painters and Sculptors, organizers of the show, not only anticipated the clamor that America's first exposure to Europe's new, non-representational painting would generate;

ALONG WITH STORIES AND BOOKS, MR. TUCCI WROTE A PLAY, "POSTERITY FOR SALE", WHICH WAS PRODUCED AT THE AMERICAN PLACE THEATER IN 1967.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show a progression from a "lover of animals into a passionate and uncontrollable collector of all kinds of art". Guess who?

**In this case the characters come alive because they know something, a secret? about Al. Then they disappear, go blank again. Somebody shut them up.**

HE BEGAN DRUGGING HIMSELF WITH BARBITURATES.

they also helped to create a circus atmosphere for its inspection. Press releases deluged the newspapers, which responded enthusiastically with satirical cartoons and derisive commentary.

MR. TUCCI'S WIFE DIED IN 1989. IN ADDITION TO HIS SON AND DAUGHTER, HE IS SURVIVED BY TWO GRANDCHILDREN AND HIS COMPANION, DEBORAH PEASE, ALL OF NEW YORK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to focus on the idea of the collection. Sort of what do collectors do anyway?

**3 large collage/storyboards–Beginning, Middle, End.**
**3 x 5 cards w/scenes in detail.**

HE LEFT PARIS IN 1933 FOR SICILY WITH HIS COMPANION MADAME DUFRESNE.

The "Nude" became an "explosion in a shingle factory" and "a collection of saddlebags". Big crowds filed into the 69th Regiment Armory, at Lexington Avenue and 25th Street, and guards had to restrain outraged art lovers from damaging the painting.

MR. TUCCI WON THE PRESTIGIOUS VIAREGGIO PRIZE FOR HIS COLLECTION OF STORIES "IL SEGRETO" ("THE SECRET"), WHICH WERE WRITTEN IN ITALIAN.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show its missing parts. To show what more we have to get in order to say we have all we want.

**A string of questions & answers about Al: When he was born, where, etc. And Where 's Al 1?**

HE SPENT SOME TIME IN THE SAME CLINIC AS COCTEAU.

It was neither the nude nor the staircase, apparently, that had provoked them, but the title, painted on the canvas, which seemed to have little to do with either, and the idea of a nude descending instead of traditionally reclining or standing.

BUT WHEN HE WAS ASKED TO LIST HIS AWARDS FOR THE CONTEMPORARY AUTHORS SERIES, HE REFUSED TO NAME THE CONVENTIONAL SORT. INSTEAD HE GAVE AS HIS "HONORS"

Honey, I rearranged the collection to remind you of: "what is the connection between the five fingers of my hand and the collection?".

**(He's) going back and doing everything over again—revisiting the past in order to change it—change Where's Al 2 back to Where's Al 1. Now what?**

HE ONCE CUT HIS WRISTS IN THE BATHTUB AND REALIZED HOW EASY IT WAS TO DIE.

Time and Space Duchamp carefully explained the painting: "It is an organization of kinetic elements, an expression of time and space through the abstract presentation of motion".

"A LETTER FROM JAMES JOYCE IN 1924, PRAISING ME FOR MY ITALIAN FAIRY TALES, A LETTER FROM E.B. WHITE TO WILLIAM SHAWN IN 1956, SAYING: "ONE TUCCI PIECE A YEAR, AND THE NEW YORKER IS IN THE CLEAR"."

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show only the most expensive pieces.

**You can go back and do it the way you wanted to be–a sequel–a rewrite. Do over your own history. The new is the old.**

HE GREW INCREASINGLY WEAKER.

*In trying to consider the notion of form through space, in a given time, he said it was necessary "to enter the realm of geometry and mathematics".*

"FIRST LEARN TO WRITE AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY DEAD", MR. TUCCI ONCE WROTE IN A PIECE OF ADVICE TO YOUNG WRITERS,

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show which pieces were the most difficult to get.

**Al is rewriting the script, doing away with what and who he doesn't like. "It's your turn." "Come alive." —Kill the characters off.**

HE DIED ON THE MORNING OF JULY 14, 1933.

"Now if I show the ascent of an airplane, I try to show what it does", he continued. "I do not make a still-life picture of it. When the vision of the "Nude" flashed upon me, I knew that it would break forever the enslaving chains of naturalism."

"AND THEN YOU WILL DISCOVER THAT YOU CAN WRITE AS IF YOU WERE STILL ALIVE".

Honey, I rearranged the collection with expensive on the left, cheap on the right.

**How many time does "Al" start his life over? When is it right? At 50 he is out to settle a score of old feelings about something.**

THE CAUSES AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS DEATH HAVE NEVER BEEN SATISFACTORILY EXPLAINED.

Half a century after the Armory Show, Duchamp recalled the indignation that had made his name a household word: "I found it very pleasant because after all my aim was not to please the general public. The scandal was exactly in my program, you might say. Also I received $240. That also was very pleasant."

## CHAPTER ONE

BRECKSVILLE, OHIO

Honey, I rearranged the collection using every piece we bought as a substitute for another one we couldn't afford.

**But what? they all ask. A desire for revenge? Or some form of indignation about? Angry about something that changed his life? Grief?**

IT HAS BEEN SAID HIS FAVORITE WORD WAS CERTAIN.

The Picture, which hangs in the Arensberg collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, is now valued at more than $250,000.

ADDRESS: 5011 OAKES RD
CITY / ST: BRECKSVILLE, OHIO
ZIP:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to reflect its true origin: depression!

**Acting out Where's Al 1?**
**"So what was that all about anyway?" Bury the secrets.**

ROUSSEL, RAYMOND, "HOW I WROTE CERTAIN OF MY BOOKS" SUN, NEW YORK, 1977. HEPPENSTALL, RAYNER, "RAYMOND ROUSSEL" CALDER AND BOYARS, LONDON, 1966.

Marcel Duchamp was born in Blainville, near Rouen, on July 28, 1887, the third son of a family remarkable for its contribution to art of this century.

OWNER PHONE: (216) 526-7661
TOTAL BLDG SF: 1,712
YEAR BUILT: 1939

Honey, I rearranged the collection to highlight the "first pieces". The first really expensive piece, the first piece we bought together, the first piece from our favorite artist, the first piece we put in the bedroom, etc.

**By rewriting "the script" he can make a better life AND by disappearing he can be rich from the sale of his work, then the life will be better.**

MANY BODIES CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED.

His eldest brother, Gaston (Jacques Villon) was to achieve international renown as a painter before his death in 1963. Another brother, Raymond (Duchamp-Villon), who was killed during World War I, had been one of the most gifted sculptors of his generation: a younger sister, Suzanne, would also become a painter.

STYLE: COLONIAL
STORIES: 2
EXTERIOR WALLS: ALUM / VINYL

Honey, I rearranged the collection to showcase the work we got before anyone else even heard of the artist.

**Al disappears and the original "cast" disappears to cover the tracks. —Big Chill to Scream—**

HONOR GUARD COMPANY OF THE 1ST BATTLE GROUP, 3RD INFANTRY, FORT MEYER, VIRGINIA.

With the blessings of his parents, Eugène Duchamp, a prosperous notary, and Lucie-Nicole Duchamp, Marcel left home at the age of 17 to pursue a career in art. He arrived in Paris at the twilight of an epoch.

CONDITION: GOOD
ROOMS: 7
BEDROOMS: 4

Honey, I rearranged the collection to finally show all the works nobody knew we had. The "secret ones".

**Plant rumors to keep the secrets. Show how private he is—nobody knows anything about him (show & tell). Characters do things that reveal they know nothing & talk about it.**

STEVIE, MIKE AND BOB

In just a few years, Braque and Picasso were to shatter the conventions of representational art with Cubism; soon Futurism would compete with Cubism for the attentions of the avant-garde, and Dada would insist on sweeping away established values.

BATHS: 1
BATHS HALF: 1
GARAGE TYPE: DETACHED

Honey, I rearranged the collection to give it more of a déjà vu feeling.

**THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF**
**Memoir/Novel/Index**

THE SENTRY IS CHANGED EVERY HOUR DURING THE DAY AND ABOUT EVERY TWO HOURS AT NIGHT.

He enrolled at the Académie Julian in 1904 and took up quarters with his brother Jacques. But the Académie soon lost its glamour.

GARAGE SPACES: 2
FLOOR 1 SQ FT: 936
FLOOR 2 SQ FT: 776

Honey, I rearranged the collection so that it represents my secret life. I'll be back in 2 weeks.

**I HAVE A BOOK I WANT YOU TO READ**

MAPLE, DOGWOOD AND OAK

"I was already disgusted with the cuisine of painting", he said later. "I played mostly billiards at the time".

"...A FRAGMENT OF PURE LIFE PRESERVED IN ITS PURITY, WHICH WE CAN ONLY KNOW WHEN IT IS SO PRESERVED BECAUSE,

Honey, I rearranged the collection alphabetically according to the titles and then according to the artists' names. Names are better.

**"Every passion borders on the chaotic, but the collector's passion borders on the chaos of memories." Walter Benjamin, "Unpacking My Library"**

A TOUR OF DUTY AVERAGES ABOUT 11 MONTHS.

After a year of military service the young painter returned to Paris. He had already demonstrated an easy technical grasp of Cézanne and Matisse when he began to experiment with the geometry and muted colors of Cubism.

IN THE MOMENT WHEN WE LIVE IT, IT IS NOT PRESENT TO OUR MEMORY, BUT SURROUNDED BY IMPRESSIONS WHICH SUPPRESS IT."
MARCEL PROUST, PREFACE TO "CONTRE SAINTE-BEUVE"

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it is always there and you are not!

**A collage of vignettes or perhaps a collision between disparate disciplines. But also a coming-of-age tale.**

SARGEANT EDWARD YOUNGER

Unlike his brothers, however, who were to adapt their own sensibilities to Cubism, Marcel again began to alter his style. Like the Futurists he employed a succession of flat overlapping planes to depict spatial movement of machine-like forms.

REAL LIFE, LIFE AT LAST LAID BARE AND ILLUMINED-THE ONLY LIFE IN CONSEQUENCE WHICH CAN BE SAID TO BE REALLY LIVED-IS LITERATURE...
MARCEL PROUST, "TIME REGAINED"

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and give it a new feel and then I gave all the works new titles. A little joke between me and the artists.

**"I decided that the only thing to do was to produce a really large work about all of the things I was interested in—the whole of one's life". Anthony Powell, 94, Chronicler of the Changing Fortunes of Britain's Upper Class, dies. Author of a 12 volume series, A Dance to the Music of Time.**

WILLIAM CHARETTE

He also supplemented his work with verbal, extra visual ideas. His famous "Nude" had in fact started as a sketch for a poem.

"LOOK MORE CLOSELY: BENEATH THESE SIMPLE THINGS LIE ALL THE SECRETS OF THE WORLD"
MARCEL PROUST

Honey, I rearranged the collection because rearranging these beautiful things is like the fountain of youth for me. I feel new.

**An ambitious effort to trace the fortunes of a group of schoolmates from their adolescence at the outbreak of World War I to old age in the Britain of the early 70's.**

NED LYLE

In 1912, after making several preliminary studies of the "Nude", he submitted it to the Puteaux circle's exhibition at the Salon des Indépendants.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only works we bought the day we saw them.

**Over the years Mr. Powell rejected complicated interpretations of "Dance", insisting it dealt with "things as they are".**

MAPLE MIXED WITH BIRCH

The Futuristic elements of the painting angered the members of the group, and at the request of his brothers he withdrew the work.

MAY 3, 1965
SUNDAY EVENING
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to artists' first names. All alphabetical except for conceptual artists.

**"THE HARVARD CLASSICS. Dr. Eliot's Five Foot Shelf of Books. From his forty years' experience as President of Harvard University, Dr. Eliot has chosen the few great books by**

A WELL-KNOWN MILITARY SAYING IS, "THE MARINES HAVE LANDED AND THE SITUATION IS WELL IN HAND".

Duchamp recalled: "I put the painting under my arm, got into a taxi and went home. After that groups meant very little to me".

SPRING HAS FINALLY ARRIVED IN FULL FORCE... I AM SITTING HERE IN YOUR ROOM WITH THE WINDOW WIDE OPEN AND LOOKING OUT AT THE MAPLE TREE AND THE JAPANESE CRAB JUST ABOUT READY TO COME OUT.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in 2 new ways. One according to the I Ching, the other according to a tarot card reading I got recently. The I Ching is better.

**Scientists, Philosophers, Teachers, Historians and Romancers, Poets and Dramatists, Explores and Chroniclers, that are really essential to the 20th-Century American.**

2ND GRADE CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER

**Playful physics** In the years preceding the war, he and the artist Francis Picabia, who shared each other's sense of iconoclastic wit and absurd humor, became close friends.

TODAY WAS A WONDERFUL DAY; SUNNY AND THE TEMPERATURE IN THE 80'S.

Honey, I rearranged the collection instead of our relationship.

**He has picked from the writings of the greatest thinkers the few characteristic works which cover their main ideas—which best express their basic thoughts". Copy from a 1910 pamphlet advertising The Harvard Classics.**

HE TRAINED AS AN OFFICER AT WASHINGTON MARINE BARRACKS.

Both had been familiar with earlier practitioners of the genre: Alfred Jarry, the playwright who, suffering from malnutrition, on his deathbed had asked for a toothpick,

IT HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE I REALLY WROTE A LETTER, JUST A NOTE LAST WEEK SO WILL BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON OUR GOINGS ON. WE HAVE STARTED THE LAWN MOWING OPERATION. I DID THE FRONT YARD TWO WEEKS AGO AND YESTERDAY DID THE COMPLETE JOB.

Honey, I rearranged the collection doing a modern and then a post-modern arrangement. Can you tell the difference?

**"The soul of a biography should be not what do I know, but what don't I know? When the biographer turns the questions on himself. He peers in and out, interrogating his materials and himself". Richard Elder in a Times Book Review.**

MARBLE CAPPED CRYPTS

and Eric Satie, the composer who, criticized for writing shapeless music, offered a work entitled "Three Pieces in the Form of a Pear".

I KNOW THIS IS THE TIME OF YEAR YOU MISS, WITH EVERYTHING GETTING GREEN AND THE BUDS COMING OUT, ETC. IT'S A LITTLE EARLY AS THE TREES HAVEN'T STARTED YET OTHER THAN THE WILLOWS. WON'T BE LONG UNTIL IT WILL BE GARDEN TIME TOO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to take all our random decisions out of it. They were too obvious.

**Come around to my home tonight; I want to show you some books I believe you will enjoy.**

THE FATHER ENLISTED THE HELP OF HIS CONGRESSMAN TO GET HIS SON OUT OF THE SERVICE.

In this spirit, Duchamp developed a "playful physics". Dissatisfied with the meter as a fixed unit of measurement, he created his own, painstakingly scientific unit.

WE WERE ALL TOGETHER ON EASTER AND THEN THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY, DAD'S BIRTHDAY, GRANDMA AND RUTH CAME OUT FOR SUPPER AND TO STAY THE NIGHT, BUT DIDN'T GO HOME UNTIL—SUNDAY NIGHT!...

Honey, I rearranged the collection using all the pieces people are envious of and that we paid nothing for.

**From Everlasting to Everlasting**
**And Song and Dance and Eyes and Heart**
**And Horizon Line_____**

THEY HAD ARRIVED MID-DAY FROM CLEVELAND.

He cut pieces of thread exactly one meter in length and dropped them on painted canvas from a height of exactly one meter.

HELEN AND BILL KELLOGG ARE LEAVING TUESDAY FOR L.A. ...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to how the book collection is arranged. Number of works by the same author/artist together, color of book, color of artwork, signed or unsigned, number of pages in the book, size of artwork, etc.

**Le Mot Juste and The Circus is Coming**
**And East of Eden and/or Amor and**

SHE WAS IN THE 6TH GRADE AT HIGHLAND DRIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

He then varnished them in the chance positions they had assumed and had wooden rulers cut from them. Later he used the rulers to trace lines in his big unfinished work on transparent glass, "The Bride Stripped Bare By Her Bachelors, Even".

MY ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN STEPPED UP THESE LAST FEW WEEKS... I HAVEN'T BEEN HOME FOR A FULL DAY MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK FOR ABOUT THE LAST MONTH...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to align it with our rare books. Only artists whose first name matches that of an author is included. A lot of works came out of storage.

**Always Spring and Every Fruit and**
**The Race goes on and on.**
**from The Sky Above The Mud Below 1988**

WHITE MARBLE.

Meanwhile he had begun to question the visual basis of art. "I wanted to get away from the physical aspects of painting", he once explained. "I was interested in ideas, not merely in visual products. I wanted to put painting again in the service of the mind."

I SURE WISH WE WERE PLANNING ON A TRIP OUT THERE IN JUNE... NOTHING I'D LIKE BETTER AS YOU WELL KNOW...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show what we could put on our website and what should stay in deep storage.

**THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF**
**Memoir/Novel/Index**

THIS TEXT ACCOMPANIES THE WORK OF THE SAME NAME. IT CONSISTS OF 34 PENCIL DRAWINGS, EACH APPROXIMATELY 22 X 29 INCHES.

In 1913 he produced the first of his "readymades", the everyday objects he elevated by mere selection to the stature of art.

YOU HAVE BEEN HAVING QUITE A TIME YOURSELF, LATELY, WITH YOUR TRIPS AND SOCIAL LIFE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection and exchanged works from storage with works that have not moved for over 10 years.

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**3. Once Upon A Time When Books Were Famous (works)**
**4. The Three Marcels**
**5. The Master Of The Familiar (private)**

TWENTY OF THE DRAWINGS PICTURE ROUSSEL'S BOOK "LOCUS SOLUS".

These parodistic gestures against what he considered the inflated importance of "retinal" art were to become the altarpieces of Pop artists and junk sculptors.

IT WAS NICE OF JULIE TO CALL US AS WE WERE BEGINNING TO WONDER WHAT HAPPENED...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show what we could put on our website and what should stay in deep storage.

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In 1913 he produced the first of his "readymades", the everyday objects he elevated by mere selection to the stature of art.

YOU HAVE BEEN HAVING QUITE A TIME YOURSELF, LATELY, WITH YOUR TRIPS AND SOCIAL LIFE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection and exchanged works from storage with works that have not moved for over 10 years.

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TWENTY OF THE DRAWINGS PICTURE ROUSSEL'S BOOK "LOCUS SOLUS".

These parodistic gestures against what he considered the inflated importance of "retinal" art were to become the altarpieces of Pop artists and junk sculptors.

IT WAS NICE OF JULIE TO CALL US AS WE WERE BEGINNING TO WONDER WHAT HAPPENED...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to present a new reason to collect more and more and more.

**The rearrangement of Everything. A collection of notes, letters, quotes, photos, words, works, texts, books, ideas, stories, poems, etc. A personal reference library.**

A SINGLE DRAWING CONTAINS THE IMAGE OF A MARINE STANDING GUARD AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Tracing the development of the readymade, Duchamp said in Hans Richter's "Dada: Art and Anti-Art": "In New York in 1915, I bought at a hardware store a snow shovel on which I wrote: in advance of a broken arm".

DEAR ALLEN:
SUNDAY NIGHT
WELL HERE IT IS AT THE END OF THE DAY AND NOW I WISH I HAD WRITTEN THIS AFTERNOON INSTEAD OF FIXING THE KITCHEN RADIO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and left out all of my favorites.

**One thing into another. Biography into index. Memoir into Novel. Sculpture into History. Autobiography into Art.**

THE REMAINING THIRTEEN DRAWINGS ARE DETAILS OF THIS CENTRAL IMAGE.

"It was around that time that the word "readymade" came to my mind to designate this form of manifestation. A point that I want very much to establish is that the choice of these readymades was never dictated by esthetic delectation.

WHILE GRANDMA WAS HAVING A NAP AFTER DINNER AND MOM, MARTHA AND AUNT RUTH WERE RECLINING IN THE BACK YARD

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only artists who like Mexican, Italian, and Ethiopian food.

**"It's not the parts that matter it is their combination." Nabokov**

SISTE VIATOR (STOP TRAVELER) 1993

The choice was based on a reaction of visual indifference with a total absence of good or bad taste... in fact a complete anesthesia.

I TOOK THE TUBES OUT-IT HAD STOPPED WORKING LAST WEEK-AND WENT TO CHECK THEM AT THE CENTER. BY THE TIME I HAD THE SET BACK TOGETHER THEY WERE READY TO PLAY CARDS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only works which are beautiful and easy to arrange. No bland conceptual or critique stuff.

**Dr. Eliot's original Five Foot Shelf turns into THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF, a different kind of catalog for ideas, memories, and themes. A telescoping view of my studio from exterior to interior presented in books, photographs and posters. One shell inside of another getting smaller and smaller.**

THIS WORK IS A COLLECTION OF NARRATIVES. IT IS ABOUT THE TELLING OF STORIES BOTH FACT AND FICTION.

Sometimes I would add a graphic detail of presentation which, in order to satisfy my craving for alliterations, would be called "readymade aided",

YOUR LETTER WAS MOST COMPLETE AND DETAILED MAKING IT QUITE UNDERSTANDABLE WHY YOU DECIDED ON YOUR PRESENT PROGRAM...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with some new categories in mind: best post-hybrid piece; best examples of photo-narrative-sequence-art circa 1979; most boring conceptual piece, 1st and 2nd generation; and more–find them all!

**The studio turns into a set of books.**

IT IS A MEMORIAL TO INDIVIDUAL MEMORIES AND THE READING OF BOOKS; OF THE PRIVATE IMAGINATION COMBINED WITH A PUBLIC, POLITICAL HISTORY.

At another time, wanting to expose the basic antinomy between art and "readymades", I imagined a "reciprocal readymade": use a Rembrandt as an ironing board!"

MAY 10, 1965
SUNDAY NIGHT
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection with our favorites, and our curator's favorites.

**The set of books turns into a sculpture.**

A LINK IS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN PRIVATE EXPERIENCE AND PUBLIC MEMORY.

With the outbreak of war, Duchamp, out of uniform because of a heart ailment, became a target of abuse in the midst of patriotic fervor. Never drawn by "the spectacle" of Parisian café life, he now shunned it almost entirely.

JUST GOT HOME FROM LAKEWOOD 8:15, SO WILL FILL YOU IN ON THE DETAILS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection and eliminated all works which are theory-based. Intuition rules in this house.

**The sculpture turns into an installation.**

AS THIS ERA OF WORLD WAR II RECEDES FROM THE REALM IMMEDIATE EXPERIENCE, I PROPOSE TO CREATE IN THE PUBLIC MIND A NEW PERSONAL MEMORY THAT IS NOT JUST ANOTHER REPLACEABLE IMAGE.

However, his reserve was soon to be challenged in New York.

WE STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE THUNDERSTORM THAT WAS PREDICTED FOR TODAY. HOWEVER THE WIND IS SPRINGING UP AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE WILL GET IT SOON. HOPE IT ISN'T ANOTHER VIOLENT ONE LIKE WE HAD A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and remember who we were when we bought these things.

**The installation turns into a room.**

DIGNITY IN A MEMORIAL IS USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH STONE AND STATUE, WITH POSE AND GESTURE AND WITH THE BODY.

He arrived here for the first time in 1915, as a celebrity for the scandal he had created in absentia. He quickly fell into an avant-garde artistic circle and glittering social milieu.

THIS HOT WEATHER SURE BROUGHT OUT THE FLOWERS AND TREES. THE SINGLE PEONY HAD ABOUT TWO BLOSSOMS OUT YESTERDAY AND TODAY THEY POPPED OUT ALL OVER, THE SAME WITH THE LILAC BUSH.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to highlight the relationship of difficult artists to their collectors.

**The room turns into photographs.**

I PROPOSE A SIMILIAR ATTITUDE WITH WORDS; A COLLISION OF WORLDS, NATIONALITIES, IDEAS, IDEALS AND KINDS OF LITERATURE.

Women found wit in Duchamp's conversation, elegance in his manner and masculinity in his gray eyes, reddish blond hair, sharply defined features and trim build.

THE PEONIES ARE SO FRAGILE AND EVERY YEAR THEY JUST GET OUT WHEN ALONG COMES A STORM AND KNOCKS THEM ALL TO PIECES.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I am disappointed with it.

The photographs turn into pages.

THIS WORK THEN IS A RECONSTRUCTION AND AN EXHIBITION OF HISTORY IN FREE ASSOCIATION, IN ORDER TO CREATE A CONTINUITY BETWEEN THE VARIOUS NARRATIVE ACTS WHICH GIVE SHAPE TO THE RANDOM MATERIAL OF HISTORY.

In 1917 Duchamp resigned from the Society of Independent Artists after it had reversed its policy of accepting for exhibition any work accompanied by a $6 entry fee.

THE PLACE SURE LOOKS NICE, ALL NEWLY MOWED AND FORSYTHIA,TULIPS, APPLE AND CHERRY BLOSSOMS ALL IN BLOOM. WISH YOU COULD SEE IT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show you that Los Angeles has taken over our collection.

**The pages turn into books.**

THERE WERE FOUR NATIONALITIES INVOLVED IN THE BATTLE OF ARNHEM: THE BRITISH, THE DUTCH, THE POLES AND THE GERMANS.

The object of the controversy was "Fountain", a porcelain urinal turned upside down and signed by a Philadelphia sculptor, "R. Mutt." "Fountain" of course, was Duchamp's own contribution to the exhibition.

I IMAGINE BY NOW YOU HAVE HEARD FROM THE KELLOGG'S...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let everyone know I'm more interested in the artists than you are.

**The books turn into volumes.**

FROM A LIST COMPILED OF TWENTY-FIVE BOOKS POPULAR DURING THE PERIOD OF 1920-1944 IN EACH OF THESE FOUR COUNTRIES, FIVE WERE CHOSEN IN EACH LANGUAGE TO BE REPRODUCED.

In 1919 he visited a Paris in the full bloom of Dada as a hero of the movement.

WE HAD SORTA PLANNED ON GOING TO COLUMBUS THIS WEEK-END WHICH WAS ONE REASON WE HADN'T MADE ANY RESERVATIONS TO EAT OUT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the color patterns on the Weather Channel.

**The volumes turn into a set.**

ONE IN FIVE WAS FURTHER SELECTED TO BE REPRINTED IN ITS ENTIRETY. THE OTHERS WOULD HAVE THE COVERS, ENDPAPERS AND DUSTJACKETS EXACTLY REPRODUCED, BUT WOULD CONTAIN ONLY BLANK PAGES IN PLACE OF THE TEXT.

After contributing his "readymade aided" Mona Lisa for the cover of Picabia's 391 magazine, he returned to New York without taking part in the organized Dada activities; it seemed to only enhance his prestige.

BETTY AND BERT ARE LEAVING NEXT WEEK TO VISIT BOB IN BALTIMORE AND THEN GO ON TO WILLIAMSBURG... I GUESS THIS IS IT FOR NOW... LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using artists whom we know virtually nothing about.

**The set turns into a collection.**

THESE BLANK COPIES BECOME ABOUT THE MEMORY OF THE BOOK. THE EX LIBRIS LABELS FOUND IN EACH BOOK, ARE INSCRIBED WITH THE NAME OF A CASUALTY FROM THE BATTLE, AND THE BOOKS THEN BECOME ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO READ THEM.

But this time he had abandoned painting on canvas and had begun piecing together, little by little, "The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even", or as it sometimes is called, "The Big Glass".

MAY 25, 1965
MONDAY NIGHT
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it feels small to me and small gets overlooked.

**The collection turns into a library.**

THE JUXTAPOSITION OF TITLE, IMAGE AND TEXT FROM THE COVERS TOGETHER WITH THE EX LIBRIS, CREATES IN THE BLANK PAGES A NEW STORY FOR EACH VIEWER.

He also decided to adopt a female alter ego, Krose Sélavy (a pun on c'est la vie), who signed such readymades as "Fresh Widow", a carpenter's model French window with black leather covered panes.

...SURE WISH THE DOLLARS GREW ON BUSHES SO YOU COULD FLY HOME AND ENJOY THE SPRINGTIME FOR A FEW DAYS. IT REALLY IS SWELL RIGHT NOW WITH ALL THE GREEN BUSHES AND TREES PLUS THE FLOWERING SHRUBS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection just after lunch.

**The library turns into posters.**

EACH OF THE TWENTY ORIGINALS IS REPRODUCED IN AN EDITION OF 100. THE BOOKS ARE SOLD IN SETS OF 20 (FIVE BOOKS FROM EACH COUNTRY).

After working on it for eight years—never more than a few hours at a time, he stopped in 1923 because "the whole thing no longer interested me".

I DON'T BELIEVE I EVER SAW THE WHITE BRIDLE WREATH SO BEAUTIFUL. IN CASE YOU AREN'T FAMILIAR WITH THE NAME, IT IS THE LONG, SLENDER STEMS LINED WITH TINY WHITE FLOWERS AND THE BUSH LOOKS LIKE A HUGH BOUQUET. OURS IS BY THE FRONT WINDOW IN THE LIVING ROOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection separating our styles. I'm minimal and you're medieval.

**The posters turn into sculpture.**

THERE ARE TWO "BOOKSTORES" IN THIS WORK. THE FIRST IS FOUND IN THE CEMETERY, AND IS FOR "PRIVATE VIEWING ONLY", WHILE THE OTHER IS FOUND IN A PUBLIC BOOKSHOP IN THE CENTER OF ARNHEM (SEE MAP).

That year also marked his departure from the formal practice of art. Commercialism and the acceptance of art by the middle class, he said later, had been factors in his withdrawal.

THE LILAC LOOKING IN THE BEDROOM WINDOW WAS ALSO LOVELY THIS YEAR.

Honey, I rearranged the collection thinking about that museum director's job.

**Sculpture turns into architecture.**

HERE THE BOOKS CAN BE HANDLED AND BOUGHT.

In the years that followed, he devoted a great deal of his time to playing chess, a game that he had enjoyed since his youth.

WE HAVE THE ADDED INTEREST IN IT AS A REDBIRD HAS A NEST JUST AT EYE LEVEL SO YOU CAN STAND THERE AND LOOK RIGHT AT THE MRS. SITTING ON HER EGGS. I SURE HOPE NOTHING HAPPENS TO THEM AS I NEVER HAVE SEEN BABY CARDINALS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection remembering when I used to go to auctions with my mother.

**Architecture turns into references.**

THE "CLOSED" BOOKSTORE IN THE CEMETERY, WHERE DEATH IS REMOVED FROM THE EVERYDAY AND THE THINGS OF LIFE, IS HOUSED IN A RESTORED WOODEN TRAILER.

Although not of master caliber, he was considered by experts a good match, who would rather risk loss by playing an unusual game than win conventionally.

YESTERDAY WE HAD A FULL HOUSE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection savoring those grand words: "Now, ladies and gentleman, the high point of this sale..."

**References turn into an index.**

THE TRAILER DOES NOT CALL ATTENTION TO ITSELF NOR DISTURB THE SOLITUDE OF THE CEMETERY.

During the nineteen thirties and forties Duchamp's forays into public activity were infrequent. A shadowy presence on the international art scene, he advised dealers and collectors on purchases.

AUNT ANNA IS STAYING HERE THIS WEEK AND EITHER RUTH OR DAD WILL TAKE HER HOME NEXT WEEK...

Honey, I rearranged the collection and left out all your favorites.

**The index turns into a table of contents.**

THE "OPEN" BOOKSTORE ALSO PRESERVES THE ROLE OF HONOR FOUND IN THE CEMETERY, BUT PLACES THEM IN A LIVING CONTEXT. HERE PUBLIC FACTS AND PRIVATE READINGS SWITCH PLACES.

The rise of Pop Art in the early sixties stirred a renewal of interest in Duchamp's work.

I NOTICED THAT THE FOR SALE SIGN ON THE HIGGINS PLACE IS FINALLY DOWN AND IT IS MARKED "SOLD". THAT REALLY WAS A HARD ONE TO SELL. I DON'T THINK IT IS VERY ATTRACTIVE FROM THE OUTSIDE ALTHO' MARTHA SAYS IT WAS NICE ON THE INSIDE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection and put back all your favorites.

**The table of contents turns into notes.**

BOTH DISPLAYS CONTAIN SYMBOLIC AND ALLEGORICAL OBJECTS WHICH ARE NECESSARY TO THE DRAMA AND THEATRE OF MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS THEMSELVES.

However, Pop Art's celebration of the Coke bottle, the Campbell's soup can and other mundane objects, unlike its predecessors, were to be accepted as genuine artistic statements. In 1962 he wrote a letter to Hans Richter, another founder of Dada:

THE LITTLE RED BRICK ONE ACROSS FROM IT IS FOR SALE FOR $24,900. I CALLED UP TO SEE IF THEY EVER TOOK A LOT IN EXCHANGE FOR THE DOWN PAYMENT BUT NEVER GOT AN ANSWER. SAID THEY WOULD FIND OUT AND CALL ME BACK BUT GUESS THEY WEREN'T INTERESTED.

Honey, I rearranged the collection. What do you think of it? Can you even tell?

**The notes turn into captions.**

ONE ASPECT OF THIS MEMORIAL IS TO FICTION ITSELF, ANOTHER TO RECALL THE PERIOD WHEN BOOKS WERE FAMOUS AND TO THE LITERATURE THAT FILLED THE MEN WHO DIED IN BATTLE.

"When I discovered readymades, I thought to discourage esthetics. In Neo-Dada they have taken my readymades and found esthetic beauty in them.

WE WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE MILLER RD. LOT AND THAT WAS A POSSIBILITY. COULD RENT IT TO TAKE CARE OF THE PAYMENTS. IT'S A CUTE LITTLE PLACE RIGHT ON THE EDGE OF THE WOODS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection after coming home from discussing the menu of the company's next annual banquet.

**The captions turn into stories.**

APPEARING AS IT DOES IN THE APPOINTED PLACE OF RENDEZ-VOUS, WHERE ALL TRAVELERS MEET,

I threw the Bottle-Rack and the Urinal into their faces as a challenge and now they admire them for their esthetic beauty."

TOMORROW AUNT ANNA IS INVITED TO GO WITH ME TO MY BRIDGE CLUB AND WEDNESDAY DOROTHY IS TAKING US TO LUNCH AT THE BROWN DERBY...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show how the foundation of our collection is really just coincidence.

**The stories turn into a novel.**

IT ATTEMPTS AT A RECONCILIATION OF OPPOSITES THAT CAN RESCUE AND HONOR A COMMON PAST

Duchamp accepted his new acclaim, however. Museums, the august institutions he had long ago mocked, paid him tribute.

WE HAD THE GARDEN PLOWED BUT IT ISN'T FITTED YET...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we tried to collect Conceptual Art but wound up with something else.

**The novel turns into history.**

AND CELEBRATE A COLLECTIVE MEMORY OF THE MOST BANAL AND HORRIFYING EVENTS. A. RUPPERSBERG, 1993.

In 1963 he was given his first big retrospective, at the Pasadena Art Museum. Another large Duchamp survey was mounted in 1966 by the Tate Gallery in London.

OCTOBER 24, 2000
ROBERT LAX, 84, MINIMALIST POET KNOWN FOR EXPERIMENTAL FORMS
BY ERIC PACE

Honey, I rearranged the collection while I was drunk. Can you tell?

**History turns into objects.**

THE SECRET OF LIFE AND DEATH 1977
PARTIAL TEXT FROM THE SECRET OF LIFE AND DEATH, A WORK IN 5 PARTS:
THE SECRET OF LIFE AND DEATH
THE FIRST STEP OF THE GUILTY
LIFE OF DEATH AND SECRET THE
SECRET DEATH THE AND LIFE OF
TRY AGAIN, MR. PENN

Duchamp, who became a U.S. citizen in 1955, lived comfortably in a brownstone on 10th Street off Fifth Avenue with his wife, the former Alexina (Teeny) Sattler, whom he married in 1954.

ROBERT LAX, AN AMERICAN MINIMALIST POET WHO WAS PRAISED FOR HIS ORIGINALITY AND SPIRITUALITY, DIED ON SEPT. 26 AT HIS FAMILY'S HOME IN OLEAN, N.Y. HE WAS 84.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are collectors not hoarders.

**And objects turn into biography.**

SOME MEN CRY SECRETLY FOR THE PAST. OTHERS DO NOT.

On the walls of their living room, paintings by Matisse, Miro and others "retinals", as he called them, suggested that he would not have to issue a check on the "Teeth's Loan and Trust Co., Consolidated" to pay a $115 dental bill, as he did in 1919.

MR. LAX MOVED BACK TO OLEON LAST MONTH AFTER LIVING ABROAD FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS, MOST RECENTLY ON THE GREEK ISLAND OF PATMOS. HE HAD BEEN IN FAILING HEALTH FOR SOME MONTHS...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with only works which have nothing to do with Mr. Duchamp. Enough already.

**Biography turns into biographers.**

SOME MEN BELIEVE TURNER TO BE THE FATHER OF MODERN PAINTING. OTHERS DO NOT.

His dentist, in true Dada spirit, accepted the check and later sold it back to him for more than the amount owed.

ONE OF MR. LAX'S CLOSEST FRIENDS WAS THOMAS MERTON, THE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS WRITER AND POET, WHO DIED IN 1968. THEY WERE CLASSMATES AS UNDERGRADUATES AT COLUMBIA.

Honey, I rearranged the collection dreaming about naming our museum. The Bourg-Saint-Maurice Museum after where I was born. OK?

**The biographer turns into an author.**

SOME MEN FORGIVE THEIR SONS. OTHERS DO NOT.

In recent years Duchamp was a familiar figure on Madison Avenue, visiting galleries and keeping up a lively commentary on the state of art.

IN HIS BOOK "THE SEVEN STORY MOUNTAIN" (HARCOURT, 1948), MERTON RECALLED MR. LAX AS A STUDENT AS A "A KIND OF COMBINATION OF HAMLET AND ELIAS" AND "A POTENTIAL PROPHET, BUT WITHOUT THE RAGE" WITH "A MIND FULL OF TREMENDOUS AND SUBTLE INTUITIONS".

Honey, I rearranged the collection putting only American artists that Europeans like with the Europeans that Americans like.

**The author turns into an artist.**

SOME MEN DISTINGUISH THEMSELVES AS MILITARY MEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

He contributed his longevity to "not much liquor but all the women you want", and, after smoking a pipe for many years, turned to inexpensive Philippine cigars.

RICHARD KOSTELANETZ WROTE IN THE NYTBR IN 1978 THAT MR. LAX WAS "AMONG AMERICA'S GREATEST EXPERIMENTAL POETS, A TRUE MINIMALIST WHO CAN WEAVE AWESOME POEMS FROM REMARKABLY FEW WORDS".

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I think it's fun. Remember the Fun Gallery in the East Village? Fun counts.

**The artist turns into a subject.**

SOME MEN CAN YODEL. OTHERS CAN NOT.

He also gave up playing chess.

HIS POETRY GREW INCREASINGLY MINIMALIST AS TIME PASSED. SOME POEMS CONTAINED ONLY SINGLE WORDS RUNNNING DOWN THE PAGE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection using only artists with 3 letters in their last name.

**The subject turns into a text.**

FISH SOME MEN FLYING. NOT OTHERS DO.

"I don't play very much any more", he said last year. "I have a hard time winning, even from the wood pushers as we call them. Once or twice a year I go to the Marshall Chess Club across the street, but that's all.

MR. LAX'S MAIN EARLY WORK AND ONE OF HIS MOST HIGHLY PRAISED IS "THE CIRCUS OF THE SUN" ( FRANCISCAN INSTITUTE, 1959 ), A VOLUME OF POETRY THAT LIKENS THE CIRCUS TO CREATION.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because someone told me it was a sellers' market.

**The text turns into a book.**

SOME MEN SEE OTHER MEN WALK ON STILTS. OTHERS DO NOT.

You can forget about something you love very much. It's a Zen concept. When I put my "Nude" under my arm and went home, it was my first Zen experience. Don't cry."

THE BOOK CONTAINS THIS STANZA:

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm not a "passive observer" anymore.

**The book turns into my studio.**

MEN FROM HAVE EUDORA LETTERS SOME WELTY RECEIVED. HAVE OTHERS NOT.

"It was in 1910, on the occasion of an exhibition at the Hedelberg Gallery that Picabia's friend Dumont introduced us to Marcel Duchamp,

"AND IN THE BEGINNING WAS LOVE.
LOVE MADE A SHERE; ALL THINGS
GREW WITHIN IT; THE SPHERE THEN

Honey, I rearranged the collection to compare art and gossip.

**How one thing becomes another as a Guide to THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF. My studio rearranged and condensed. Then THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF is rearranged and condensed. 50 into one. Condensed and transformed. A synopsis.**

LOOK FOR PRESERVATIVES BUT ANARCHY FOR MEN SETTLE SOME THEIR. NOT DO OTHERS.

then a very young man, but one whose ideas far surpassed the works he had so far accomplished, which were still subject to Cézannian and Cubist influence,

ENCOMPASSED BEGINNINGS AND
ENDINGS, BEGINNING AND END.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to highlight insides, anecdotes, genealogy, and gossip.

**When In Doubt Go To The Movies. Chapter One. 611 Broadway. The Master Of The Familiar. Chapter One. Brecksville, Ohio.**

SOME MEN REGRET THEIR PASSIONS AND ACCEPT RELIGION. OTHERS DO NOT.

Though very much detached from the conventions of his epoch, he had not yet found his mode of expression, and this gave him a kind of disgust with work and an ineptitude for like.

LOVE HAD A COMPASS WHOSE
WHIRLING DANCE TRACED OUT A

Honey, I rearranged the collection but you would never notice.

**How it works: THE NEW FIVE FOOT SHELF is a collection of books and posters. My studio of the last 15 years is collapsed into a 50 volume set of books and a corresponding set of posters. The 44 posters reproduce the studio on a one to one scale and when they are assembled it recreates the studio as it was at 611 Broadway.**

SOME MEN HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM EUDORA WELTY. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

Under an appearance of almost romantic timidity, he possessed an exacting dialectical mind in love with philosophical speculations and absolute conclusions.

SPHERE OF LOVE IN THE VOID; IN
THE CENTER THEREOF ROSE A FOUNTAIN".

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let the artists speak for themselves. Critics hate that!

**The books are an exact reproduction of the Harvard Classics, Dr. Eliot's Five Foot Shelf Of Books published in 1910 by P.F. Collier & Son. It provided in about 22,000 pages a knowledge of ancient and modern literature that seemed essential to the idea of a cultivated man. It came in a handsomely bound set of 50 volumes of about 350 pages each.**

SOME MEN RETREAT FROM THEIR VULNERABILITY INTO PANIC. OTHERS DO NOT.

It has always seemed to me that the meeting of those two exceptional personalities, Picabia and Duchamp, was of capital importance for them both.

MR. LAX RECEIVED...
HE WAS BORN TO...
HE GREW UP IN OLEON ON LONG ISLAND...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see how many "geniuses" we have.

I have reproduced them (on the outside) exactly as they were. On the inside, one volume of the books is a second photographic record of the studio that serves as an index. The first volume is attributed to the manual. The other 48 volumes are a collection of texts which represent a part of the unseen interior and symbolic sense of the space.

DIFFERENT MEN OTHER THAN THEY ARE BELIEVE MEN SOME. OTHERS DO NOT.

In that period Picabia led a rather sumptuous, extravagant life, while Duchamp enclosed himself in the solitude of his studio at Neuilly,

HIS WORK INCLUDES SOME WHIMSY LIKE THESE UNTITLED LINES:
"ARE YOU A VISITOR?" ASKED
THE DOG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and prove that artists are not gods for Christ's sake. I'm sick of it.

**The text pages are arranged so as to appear to be captions for selected pages of the index as well as a narrative which runs throughout all of the volumes. They can be read one sentence, one page, or one book at a time. There are 16 pages of text in each book.**

BUT ABSOLUTELY MEN LUCKLESS SOME FAITHFUL RESOLUTELY ARE. NOT ARE OTHERS.

keeping in touch with only a few friends, among whom we were numbered.

"YES" I ANSWERED.
"ONLY A VISITOR?" ASKED
THE DOG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection after we met Sherrie Levine. Get it? Ha Ha.

**Four signatures of each volume are printed, the rest are left blank. Into this empty space I have randomly inserted a selection of obituaries, mostly of artists, from my collection.**

SOME MEN HAVE A SENSE OF THEIR HUMILIATION, PAIN AND LOSS. OTHERS DO NOT.

Sometimes he "took a trip" to his room and banished for two weeks from the circle of his friends: this was a time of escape into himself,

"YES" I ANSWERED.
"TAKE ME WITH YOU" SAID
THE DOG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if all the 90's works come out of the 60's and 70's like they say.

**Mixing real time with fictional time, a piece of the studio and a piece of the actual world mark a page in a purely imaginary space. Since the work can be read in many ways and directions at the same time, I have left many bookmarks to plot the course.**

SOME MEN ARE BORN TO GOOD LOOKS AND SACRIFICE ONLY FOR WOMEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

in the course of which the "sad young man in a train" was transmuted into a captivating impressibe incarnation of Lucifer.

JUNE 9, 1965
TUESDAY EVENING 6:30
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection by thinking about which artists are the most fun.

When everything has been completely rearranged and put back together again and again by the viewer, a very private world is opened up for all to see. One collection placed inside the container of another. A old space is filled with new information.

SOME MEN FEEL THEY ARE FAILURES AND LIVE IN SMALL TOWNS FURTHER DOWN THE COAST. OTHERS DO NOT.

The very different temperaments and conceptions of the two men led them to the same extreme point of logical decomposition, to the same immediate routine logic of the senses.

BY THIS TIME YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT THE REGULAR LETTER WRITING TIME WENT BY WITH NARY A WORD BEING SCRIBBLED-OR TYPED...

Honey, I rearranged the collection by separating all the divorced artists couples.

An index is a type of sign which arises as the physical manifestation of a cause, of which traces, imprints, and clues are examples. In this case, the photographs of the studio bear an indexical relationship to the works and ideas which came out of it rather than the objects seen in the photographs.

SOME MEN SEE THINGS OTHERS SHOULD NOT AND DOUBT WHAT THEY HEAR. OTHERS DO NOT.

They were as opposed in their reactions as in their methods; but their roads ran parallel, magnetized by the same pole.

IT IS A GOOD THING WE PLANTED THE GARDEN THOUGH AND PUT UP THE "PEA FENCE", BECAUSE WE HAD SHOWERS YESTERDAY AND TODAY...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to make room for the archive.

**A new MERZBAU, "some form of container for a variety of objects which bore commemorative and autobiographical significance".**

CLIFFS ARE ONLY MEN FROM SOME SEEN WINDY. ARE OTHERS NOT.

Picabia exceeded the limits of his creative field by an exasperation of his lyric vein, always under pressure;

...DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOUR PAPERS HAVE HAD ANY COMMENT ABOUT THIS BEING LOCUST YEAR HERE OR NOT. I EITHER HAD FORGOTTEN HOW THEY WERE OR THEY NEVER HAVE BEEN SO BAD BEFORE. DO YOU REMEMBER THEM AT ALL?

Honey, I rearranged the collection to try and explain ourselves to our fellow collectors.

**A room folded into a set of books. An architectural autobiography. Another form of concrete poetry with the pages shuffled like cards and a rhythm to match.**

SOME MEN WANT TO CLAIM AS THEIR OWN A TRUE AND UNIVERSAL IDEA OF GOD. OTHERS DO NOT.

he abandoned himself to chance and to his exceptional imaginative faculties. Duchamp on the contrary, by a discipline that was almost Jansenist and mystical,

THERE ARE SO MANY THAT THERE IS A CONTINOUS NOISE A SHRILL SINGING AS DESCRIBED IN THE ARTICLE AS LONG AS THE SUN IS SHINING FROM JUST AFTER DAYBREAK UNTIL EVENING.

Honey, I rearranged the collection in order to better understand the outré opinions we are told we have.

**"Everything takes the shape of what you put it in." Georges Braque**

THE WIND MADE HER ANGRY. WARM AND DUSTY, WITH A COLLECTIVE FRAGRANCE THAT CAME FROM ALL THE DESERTS OF THE WORLD. IT ARRIVED IN ELSINORE WITH THE ARROGANCE OF A YOUNG SOLDIER HOME ON HIS FIRST LEAVE. (CONT.)

suppressed every impulse, every desire to create, suppressed all joy in creating and to avert the danger of a routine reminiscence or reflex, forced himself to a rule of conduct directly counter to the natural.

TODAY, AND PART OF YESTERDAY, THEY WERE QUIET BECAUSE OF THE RAIN. OF COURSE, THIS IS ONLY DISCERNIBLE OUT HERE IN THE COUNTRY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't know how to put "neo" and "post" in the same room.

**What happens when the first line of Plato's Republic is used as a caption for a photo of the book itself?**

SOME MEN RESIST THE DESIRE TO BE ADORED BY WOMEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

But they emulated one another in their extraordinary adherence to paradoxical, destructive principles,

HOPE THEY DON'T DO TOO MUCH DAMAGE TO THE APPLE TREES AND IF I HAD KNOWN THEY WERE GOING TO BE SO BAD I WOULD HAVE TRIED TO SPRAY A COUPLE OF TREES SATURDAY EVEN IF I WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE EXHAUSTED...
LOVE, DAD.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to separate works which only seem to be about ideas from those which are truly splendid.

**"...but because they looked like the torn picture books of childhood, like fragments of stories dancing in an open fire". The Last Tycoon, F. Scott Fitzgerald**

SOME MEN INHERIT IDEALS. OTHERS DO NOT.

in their blasphemies and inhumanities which were directed not only against the old myths of art, but against all the foundations of life in general.

JUNE 14, 1965

HI:

Honey, I rearranged the collection to separate unhappy artists with problems from the rest. I couldn't do it. It would be the whole collection.

**"(How to Remember) It's the difference between day and night", he said.**

THEIR TASTES SEEK CATHOLIC MEN BEYOND SOME PERVERSIONS. NOT DO OTHERS.

Guillaume Apollinaire often took part in these forays of demoralization, which were also forays of witticism and clowning.

JUST READ YOUR LETTER OVER AGAIN SO THAT IF THERE IS SOMETHING TO COMMENT ON I WON'T FORGET IT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection in memory of Nick Wilder.

**What remains when all is done? Attempts to defer the moment of dying.**

SOME MEN HAVE THE CAPACITY TO CARE FOR WOMEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

Better than by any rational method, they thus pursued the disintegration of the concept of art,

I SUPPOSE WE WILL HEAR ALL ABOUT YOU WHEN JIM GETS HOME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to how different artists' names sound together like Serra Bloom or Ray Manzoni, Sherman Opie.

**The volume numbers on the spine of the books do not match the volume numbers indicated on the title pages. Volume 1 on the spine may be Volume 12 on the title page.**

HAVE SMALL MEN NOISES AND SOME INSOMNIA FOR LISTEN. DO OTHERS NOT.

substituting a personal dynamism, individual forces of suggestion and projection, for the codified values of formal Beauty".

I GUESS MOST OF MY ACTIVITIES ARE OVER NOW...

Honey, I rearranged the collection with artists whose names I never remember. Like Tom Wesselman.

**This way you can start anywhere and go forward and backward and not be as conscious of a specific order. If you arrange them according to the numbers on the spine you rearrange the order of the texts on the inside.**

SOME MEN ARE SAID TO BE CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY. OTHERS ARE NOT.

"We had found Marcel Duchamp perfectly adapted to the violent rhythm of New York.

I THINK THAT MARTHA AND I WILL GO SHOPPING TOMORROW AS I HAVE TO BUY MEREDITH A WEDDING PRESENT AND MARTHA NEEDS SOME PLAY CLOTHES, JEANS, SHORTS, ETC.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I changed my mind about everything.

In the reverse, if you order them according to the volume numbers seen on the title pages you scramble the volume numbers and their categories of knowledge seen on the spines.

COWARDICE MEN THEIR SOME REVEAL. NOT OTHERS DO.

He was the hero of the artists and intellectuals and of the young ladies who frequented these circles.

MENTIONING FRED MADE ME THINK OF YOUR REMARKS ABOUT FELLOWS DODGING THE DRAFT...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to question the cultural truths reflected in patterns of collection, scholarship and display in the privileged spaces of Art. Ha Ha.

**NOTES** 1985-1988?

THE WIND WAS HERE. EVERYWHERE. ALL THE TIME. AND NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME, IT WAS VISIBLE. LIKE GOD HAD BECOME VISIBLE TO HER IN CHURCH, AS A CHILD, SHE COULD NOW SEE THE WIND IN ELSINORE. (CONT.)

Leaving his almost monastic isolation, he flung himself into orgies of drunkenness and every other excess. But in a life of license as of asceticism,

THE LOCUSTS HAVE BEEN TERRIFIC. GUESS WE TOLD YOU THEY DESCENDED UPON US, DIDN'T WE? THE NOISE ABOUT DRIVES YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND. THEY EVEN LIGHT ON YOU IF YOU ARE OUTSIDE WHERE THEY ARE THICK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if we are a joke or not.

**THE MASTER OF THE FAMILIAR**
**The story is more important than the paper it's printed on.**

SOME MEN ARE EITHER WARRIORS OR SAUSAGES. OTHERS DO NOT.

he preserved his consciousness of purpose: extravagant as his gestures sometimes seemed,

YOU KNOW MARTHA WHEN IT COMES TO BUGS OF ANY KIND.

Honey, I rearranged the collection following Stella's advice: What you see is what you see.

**We know that the world is flat, dull, boring, banal, repetitive and endless but we also know it is stimulating, exciting, mysterious, wild, beautiful and renewing, and you can never be sure which is which. I work in the aera of the which is which. Is it Art or is it Memorex? 1985**

SOME MEN REVEAL THEIR COWARDICE. OTHERS DO NOT.

they were perfectly adequate to his experimental study of a personality disengaged from the normal contingencies of human life.

SHE WAS MOWING THE LAWN YESTERDAY AND WHEN SHE GOT NEAR TO THE TREES I HAD TO TAKE OVER. ONE WOULD COME BUZZING AROUND HER AND SHE'D LET GO OF THE MOWER TO GET OUT OF ITS WAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I don't know why we started.

**NOTES AND QUOTES FROM OTHER SOURCES** or how to think about my work in other people's words. 1986

SOME MEN SIT IN HOLES AND HOLD THEIR BREATH. OTHERS DO NOT.

He later recognized, in an interview with James Johnson Sweeney, that in this fabrication of his personality he was very much influenced by the manner of Jacques Vache, whom he had met through Apollinaire.

IT'S A WONDER SHE DIDN'T CUT DOWN MY ROSES. ONE TIME SHE WAS HEADED RIGHT FOR THEM WHEN SHE LET GO! SHE'D LET OUT A SCREECH AND I'D SEE THE MOWER TAKE OFF ON ITS OWN NO MATTER WHAT WAS IN ITS WAY.

Honey, I rearranged the collection when I first woke up, then just after lunch and again before I went back to bed. One thing led to another and now I don't know what to do!

**"...not interested in unique objects"**

SOME MEN HAVE INSOMNIA AND LISTEN FOR SMALL NOISES. OTHERS DO NOT.

In art he was interested only in finding new formulas with which to assault the tradition of the picture and of painting.

THE MAPLE TREES AND THE APPLE TREES SEEM TO BE THE ONES THAT THEY ARE QUITE FOND OF AND THEY JUST SWARM AROUND THEM. I HOPE THEY DON'T RUIN THE APPLES AS THERE IS A GOOD CROP THIS YEAR...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with Peggy Guggenheim in mind. Guess why?

**"(He) sought to open art to commonplace experience and to acknowledge the influence of the mass media".**

SHE WAS UNNOTICED. THERE WOULD SOON BE QUESTIONS. CASUAL AT FIRST, THEN DARTING, SHARP AND SUSPICIOUS. WITH THE PAUSES AND CONSIDERATIONS STRUCTURED BETWEEN THEM AS TIGHTLY AS AN OLD COMEDIAN'S FAMILIAR MONOLOGUES. (CONT.)

despite the pitiless pessimism of his mind, he was personally delightful with his gay ironies. The attitude of abdicating everything,

JAN. 2, 1963
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I prefer a sense of order. Then I can hope for more.

**"...pursues no single formal idea, his subject matter is equally diverse".**

OR MEN SAUSAGES SOME WARRIORS EITHER ARE. OTHERS DO NOT.

even himself, which he charmingly displayed between two drinks, his elaborate puns, his contempt for all values, even the sentimental,

WE SURE ENJOYED YOUR NICE, LONG LETTER AND ESPECIALLY THE ENCLOSED PICTURES...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to see if we got our money's worth.

**"This is a collection sifted through my eccentricity and therefore, hopefully, bizarre as to individual pieces and even more bizarre in its totality". Sam Wagstaff on his silver collection. 1986.**

SOME MEN SEEK PERVERSIONS BEYOND THEIR CATHOLIC TASTES. OTHERS DO NOT.

were not the least reason for the curiosity he aroused, and the attraction he exerted on men and women alike. Utterly logical, he soon declared his intention of renouncing all artistic production.

WE ALL HAD DINNER AT THE NEW RESTAURANT NEXT TO THE MOTOR HOTEL YESTERDAY. IT WAS VERY GOOD AND NOT TO EXPENSIVE...

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm looking for a good argument.

**"...installed together, individual works function as the elements of a complex lexicon that are reassembled in changing combinations".**

THE CONSTANT WIND WHICH MADE THE DESPERATION SO APPARENT REMINDED HER OF THE ESSAYS ON CALIFORNIA BY HER FRIEND JOAN DIDION. (CONT.)

And if he continued to busy himself with his great work in glass, "The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even",

I'M GLAD YOUR CHRISTMAS TURNED OUT SO NICELY. DID YOU EAT AT HOME?...

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that nothing can take the place of these works. Ever.

"...(he) addresses the relationship between public and private experience... history and memory, life and death, love and loss".

TO WOMEN HAVE FOR SOME THE MEN CARE CAPACITY. NOT OTHERS DO.

to which for two years he had been devoting such meticulous care, it was because it had been purchased prior to completion.

YOU ASKED A FEW QUESTIONS YOURSELF, SO I WILL ANSWER THE ONES I THINK OF RIGHT NOW.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to explain that rules are not artworks and collectors are not critics.

**"...investing the abstract and the mundane with emotional content, his materials are vehicles for meaning".**

SOME MEN STILL BELIEVE ALL IS FOR THE BEST. OTHERS DO NOT.

He was almost happy when it cracked in moving.

DAD BROKE HIS RIB BENDING OVER THE BACK OF THE DAVENPORT TRYING TO PUT A COASTER UNDER THE BACK LEG, YOU KNOW THOSE THINGS YOU PUT DOWN TO KEEP IT FROM MAKING HOLES IN THE RUG.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show everyone I was right about everything every time.

**To make Art that doesn't look like Art but more like little odd pieces of real life. TO DEFAMILIARIZE THE FAMILIAR AS ONLY A MASTER OF THE FAMILIAR CAN.**

SOME MEN UNDERSTAND THE CODE OF POISONS. OTHERS DO NOT.

As to painting, he kept his word, he never again touched a brush. But at long intervals he did work on certain strange objects or machines,

HE WAS TRYING TO LIFT UP ON THE ONE SECTION WHILE LEANING OVER THE BACK OF THE OTHER. HE FELT SOMETHING GIVE 'WAY AND IT HURT SO BADLY HE ALMOST GOT SICK.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I miss N.Y., Paris, Rome, Berlin, London, Milan and the Cape.

**The work has the ephemeral quality of a thought in passing, a fragment or part of something larger which can't be seen as a whole. Things in the act of disappearing or a translation of one thing to another.**

SOME MEN USE THE WORDS OF OTHER MEN. OTHERS DO NOT.

strictly useless and anti-esthetic, which one of his historians very aptly named "wolf traps" (he should have added: "for the mind").

WHEN HE WENT TO THE DOCTOR HE SAID THAT YOU COULDN'T TELL FOR SURE IF IT WAS BROKEN WITHOUT AN X-RAY BUT THAT IT PROBABLY WAS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection asking myself the question: who is the founder of Conceptual Art?

I like the surface of life—the trivial details that make up most of our time and in some ways define it.

CAPABLE BECOMING MEN OF GREAT SOME. NOT OTHERS ARE.

He drugged himself on chess, playing night and day like a professional.

ANYWAY, THEY DON'T DO ANYTHING FOR YOU ANYWAY EXCEPT TO TELL YOU TO BE CAREFUL AND NOT PLAY ANY BASEBALL OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

Honey, I rearranged the collection to let people know contemporary collectors are interesting people too.

**I like to use forms that are laying around empty. Forms that are for purposes other than art.**

SOME MEN HAVE SEEN AN EASTERN SHORE. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

And when asked to participate in artistic events, he consented only for the sake of the scandal that might be provoked.

WHEN IT CAME TO SHOVELING SNOW, IT WAS TOO MUCH EXERTION, AND MADE IT HURT. HOWEVER, DAD WENT AHEAD AND DID SOME ANYWAY, BUT NOT LIKE HE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE IF HE HADN'T BEEN AFRAID IT WOULD DAMAGE HIS RIB.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because it has to go.

**What kind of basic formal structure can I devise in order to simply leave things alone?**

SOME MEN ARE SEEN ONLY FROM WINDY CLIFFS. OTHERS ARE NOT.

At the New York Independents exhibition, for example, he exhibited a urinal entitled Fountain, which was of course disqualified.

WE STILL HAVEN'T SEEN OUR DRIVEWAY FOR OVER A MONTH, IT STAYS SO COLD, THE SNOW DOESN'T MELT, AND THEN WE GET MORE SNOW ON TOP OF WHAT WE HAVE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection or should I say reconfigured or recontextualized or rewrote our cultural products?

**I have used many unseen things. Things found in the private world of the individual and in the unnoticed worlds of the public.**

RESIST MEN BE WOMEN BY SOME DESIRE TO THE ADORED. DO NOT OTHERS.

Yet a kind of occult prescience of men and things gave him an extraordinary influence on all the innovating artists of his generation, particularly the Surrealists, for whom he became a kind of symbol.

DAD SAYS THIS IS THE WORST WINTER TO DRIVE IN ALL THE YEARS HE HAS LIVED HERE. HAVE A FEW MORE LIKE THIS AND WE'LL BE OUT TO LIVE WITH YOU!

Honey, I rearranged the collection emphasizing our modest period. Before we met you know who.

**By using the posters as backgrounds I'm able to incorporate text in a real way. By using each wall as a different text I can have a dialogue with or without objects.**

SOME MEN HAVE SAID AT THE END OF THEIR LIVES, "I'LL GO BACK TO LIVE IN MALIBU AGAIN AND SEE THE WAVES I USED TO SURF IN WHEN I WAS YOUNGER AND SEE THE BEAUTIFUL VEGETATION OF CALIFORNIA. I WAS ALWAYS HAPPIEST THERE." OTHERS HAVE NOT.

Although he has to his credit a very limited number of painted works or invented objects,

I HOPE YOUR BIRTHDAY PACKAGE ARRIVES ON TIME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection by switching the lighting from Irwin to Flavin.

Like language environments. Like being on the street. Written, heard, thought, said, seen, assaultive, quiet, vulgar, poetic, meaningful, meaningless, visual, verbal.

SOME MEN HAVE CAUGHT A STUMBLING, DRUNKEN JUDY GARLAND IN THEIR ARMS. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

his contribution is considerable, and because of his sure judgment, he later came to be consulted as an authority, even in official circles".

I HAVE TO STOP AND GET SUPPER NOW... MAYBE WILL WRITE A LITTLE MORE LATER.
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because I'm tired of Chinese, Egyptian, Bronze Age, Archaic Greek, Cycladic, African, Medieval and Renaissance sculptures.

**Nasty feeling and sounding and looking phrases. Common and vulgar with weighty ideas.**

SOME MEN SIT BY WATERHOLES IN AFRICA AND WATCH CHEETAHS AT NIGHT. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

Gabrielle Buffet-Picabia 1949.
Translated from the French by Ralph Manheim.

JAN. ?, 1963
TUESDAY, 5:30 P.M.
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection hanging only artists who don't criticize. Surprise! No collection.

**I have always liked things that at first you don't notice, but when you do, you begin to understand their place, significance and meaning in relationship to what you do see. Then for a moment you can see everything at once.**

BLEEDING STIGMATICS, ARE MEN ON FRIDAYS SOME. ARE NOT OTHERS.

Marcel Duchamp
By André Breton.
Translated from The French by Ralph Manheim.

I HOPE BY THIS TIME...
I AM WONDERING...
THE COOKIES WERE FROM PAPA AND ALLA...

Honey, I rearranged the collection by putting all the Flavins together in one room. Now I've lost the Kosuth.

**The work must elicit some kind of skepticism from the viewer as to what he is looking at.**

—MONEY TALKS. BULLSHIT WALKS. (CONT.)

From Littérature, October 1922

...EDNA POPOWSKI CALLED ME LAST WEEK TO TELL ME THAT HOWARD AND JUDY RAN AWAY AND GOT MARRIED THE DAY THEY WENT BACK TO SCHOOL.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to prove that Conceptual Art began with Magritte.

**Listmaking. Functioning as a librarian sorting and collecting information. As a poet constructing metaphors through proximity, juxtaposition and intersection. Suggesting a context for meaning.**

SOME MEN HAVE SEEN SHANGRI-LA. OTHERS HAVE NOT.

"It is by rallying around this name, a veritable oasis for those who are still Seeking,

SHE WAS PRETTY UPSET ABOUT IT AND SAID SHE TOLD HIM SHE HOPED HE WASN'T PLANNING ON THEM SUPPORTING HIM! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY EXPECT TO LIVE ON AS THEY ARE BOTH IN SCHOOL. PRETTY STUPID, SEEMS TO ME...

Honey, I rearranged the collection in a West Coast manner. All Ruscha All the time.

**I like the way a calendar plays on my consciousness as a date and an image come together in the breath of a glance. Slyly registering their connection in a world we can only approximate in art.**

FOR CRY THE SOME PAST SECRETLY MEN. NOT DO OTHERS.

that we might most acutely carry on the struggle to liberate the modern consciousness from that terrible fixation mania which we never cease to denounce.

TONIGHT WE ARE INVITED DOWN TO DOROTHY'S FOR SUPPER TO CELEBRATE PAPA'S BIRTHDAY, 83 YEARS OLD. THINK YOU WILL LAST THAT LONG?

Honey, I rearranged the collection putting it in alphabetical order according to the artists' initials. A.B. to W.W.

**All I can do is to play down the commodity aspect with language and thought. A fortune can be had from gambling.**

IF YOU MAKE IT SOMEBODY TAKES IT AWAY FROM YOU. IF YOU SPEND IT NO ONE CARES. (CONT.)

The famous intellectual crab-tree which in half a century has borne the fruits called Symbolism, Impressionism, Cubism, Futurism, Dadaism, demands only to be felled.

HE SURE GETS AROUND O.K. THEY ARE PLANNING ON GOING TO FLORIDA AROUND THE FIRST OF FEB. GUESS IF YOU WERE EXPECTED THEY WOULD WAIT A FEW DAYS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection with nobodies.

**When I come back to meet myself (in the objects) I will remember... It was not this so what was it? Buried treasure.**

SOME MEN RECOGNIZE THE GREAT SHOCK AND DEVASTATION IN OTHERS. OTHERS DO NOT.

The case of Marcel Duchamp offers us a precious line of demarcation between the two spirits that will tend to oppose one another more and more in the very heart of the "modern spirit"...

I KNOW DAD WILL WANT TO WRITE SOMETHING SO WILL LEAVE THE REST FOR HIM...
LOVE, MOM.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to get the most out of it.

**Books educate, news passes time.**

SHE HEARD THE MEN SAY: —SHE RAN THE MEXICAN OLYMPICS. RAN THE ONE HUNDRED YARD DASH. MADE HER FAST AND LONG-WINDED. (CONT.)

The admirable beauty of the face imposes itself through no striking detail, and likewise,

JAN. 25, 1963
THURSDAY
DEAR ALLEN:

Honey, I rearranged the collection again because I was anxious again.

**NOTES FALL/WINTER 1990-1992**
**What is the order and what is the method?**

SOME MEN ATTEMPT PERFECTION AND SPEND THEIR LIVES RUTHLESSLY. OTHERS DO NOT.

anything one can say to the man is shattered against a polished plaque that discloses nothing of what takes place in the depths;

I'LL START THIS LETTER BUT I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY AS WE HAVE BEEN EXPECTING A LETTER FROM YOU ALL WEEK. WE PARTICULARLY ARE WONDERING WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE COMING NEXT WEEK BUT I GUESS FROM WHAT YOU WROTE BILL, THAT YOU WILL BE HERE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection because sometimes artists bug me. One came to the door yesterday completely unannounced.

**"It seems that this is a difficulty pertaining to our times: there is as yet only one possible choice, and this choice can bear only on two equally extreme methods: either to posit a reality which is entirely permeable to history, and ideologies;**

BEAUTIFUL DAY.
GOOD DAY FOR A MURDER. (CONT.)

and those laughing eyes, without irony, without indulgence, that dispel the slightest shadow of concentration and reveal the solicitude of the man to preserve a perfectly amiable exterior;

IF YOU HAVE HEARD ANY WEATHER REPORTS OF WEATHER IN OHIO LATELY, I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU WILL WANT TO COME OR NOT. IT WAS TWENTY DEGREES BELOW ZERO THIS MORNING AND ALTHO' THE SUN SHONE BRIGHTLY ALL DAY IT NEVER DID GET HIGHER THAN 2 BELOW!

Honey, I rearranged the collection because Walter Hopps told me to.

or, conversely, to posit a reality which is ultimately impenetrable, irreducible, and, in this case, poetize.

SOME MEN ARE ABSOLUTELY FAITHFUL BUT RESOLUTELY LUCKLESS. OTHERS ARE NOT.

elegance in its most fatal quality, that goes beyond elegance, a truly supreme Case: thus Marcel Duchamp appeared to me in the course of his last stay in Paris;

IT BROKE ALL KNOWN RECORDS FOR THIS DATE. IN 1873 THEY HAD 17 BELOW WHICH WAS THE CLOSEST. WE HAD THE DOUBTFUL HONOR OF BEING THE COLDEST SPOT IN THE NATION.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to the locations of all the old galleries in Los Angeles when they were all on La Cienega. Remember Ester Robles?

**In a word, I do not yet see a synthesis between ideology and poetry (by poetry I understand, in a general way, the search for the inalienable meaning of things)" Roland Barthes**

SHE SAW THE CHURCHES AND THE SUSPICION. BUT IT WAS SUSPICION OF A DIFFERENT ORDER. NOT A SUSPICION OF GOD, FOR IN ELSINORE THAT BLOWS QUICKLY AWAY.

I had not seen him before and, because of certain strokes of his intelligence that had reached me, I had expected something marvelous.

IT HAS BEEN THE WORST WINTER THAT ANY OF US CAN REMEMBER. A MAN FROM THE ALMANAC WHO HAD PREDICTED THIS WAS ON TV TODAY. HE WAS ASKED WHAT NEXT WINTER WOULD BE LIKE AND HE SAID, JUST THE SAME AND POSSIBLY WORSE.

Honey, I rearranged the collection according to who bought it. You or me.

**"All process moves forward and also rounds back". Wordsworth's Prelude from Natural Supernaturalism.**

**BUT A SUSPICION THAT MAYBE IT'S YOU WHO WILL FINALLY TAKE THE LAST SOMETHING AWAY. AND THE LAST OF ANYTHING IS ALWAYS PROTECTED. (CONT.)**

First of all let us observe that the situation of Marcel Duchamp in relation to the contemporary movement is unique in that the most recent groupings invoke the authority of his name,

MAYBE WE WILL BE IN CALIFORNIA SOONER THAN YOU THINK. I KNOW DAD HAS HATED THE DRIVING THIS WINTER AND COMES HOME EXHAUSTED FROM THE TRAFFIC JAMS.

Honey, I rearranged the collection to show that we are more than just eccentrics.

**A fringe character even when at the center of the frame. A watcher/reader who stands at the crossroads of other discourses, ideas, cultures, and patterns."Both in and out of the game and watching and wondering at it". W. Whitman**

SOME MEN FEEL A LOSS IN MODERN ART. OTHERS DO NOT.

although it is impossible to say up to what point he has never given them his consent,

THE TEMPERATURE BEING WHAT IT WAS, I THINK IF IT HADN'T BEEN THE LAST DAY OF EXAMS, I WOULD HAVE TOLD MARTHA TO STAY HOME...

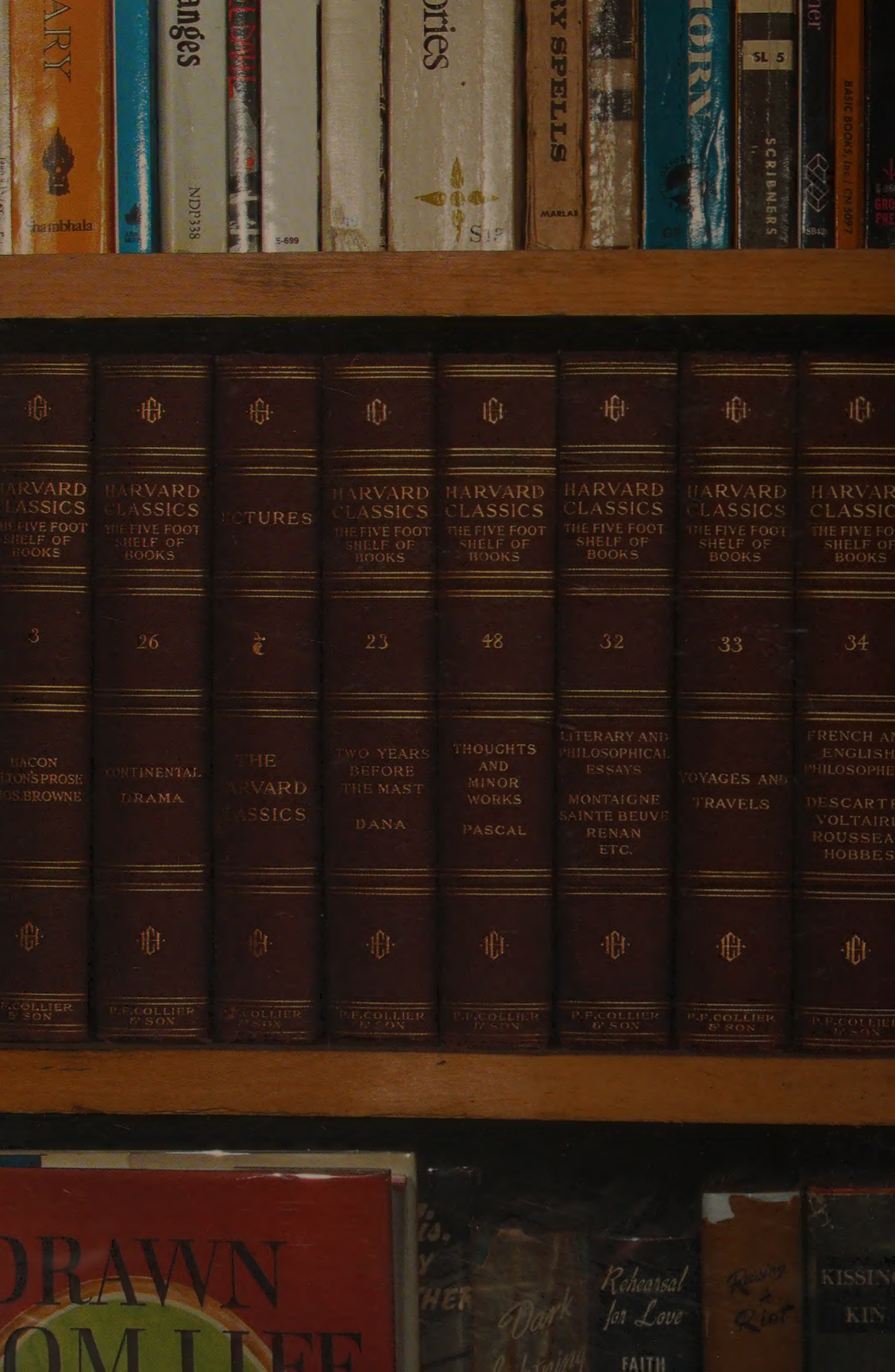
Honey, I rearranged the collection to correct the relationship between Harvard and Choate, Chuckle, Chuckle.

**not either/or but and**

THE WIVES OF THE YOUNG MEN QUIETLY REVEALED THAT THE CUTENESS OF SEVENTEEN WAS RAPIDLY FADING INTO THE DESIRES THEY HAD ACCEPTED BY AGE TWELVE. (CONT.)

and although we see him turning with perfect freedom away from the complex of ideas whose originality was in large part due to him, before it took the systematic turn that alienates certain others as well.

I TALKED TO MRS. RICHMONT TODAY...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